



# Records of Early English Drama

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## SOMERSET

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### The Records

PLEASE RETURN TO  
RECORDS OF EARLY ENGLISH DRAMA  
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416-585-4504

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# RECORDS OF EARLY ENGLISH DRAMA

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# SOMERSET

EDITED BY JAMES STOKES

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Including

## BATH

EDITED BY ROBERT J. ALEXANDER

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## The Records

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# Records of Early English Drama

The aim of *Records of Early English Drama* (REED) is to find, transcribe, and publish external evidence of dramatic, ceremonial, and minstrel activity in Great Britain before 1642. The executive editor would be grateful for comments on and corrections to the present volumes and for having any relevant additional material drawn to her attention.

ALEXANDRA F. JOHNSTON University of Toronto DIRECTOR

SALLY-BETH MACLEAN University of Toronto EXECUTIVE EDITOR

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# Acknowledgments

## Somerset

To paraphrase Robert Frost, REED is the place where when you go there with documents they have to take you in. That ethos of inclusion, extending to scholars and documents alike, derives from the singular insight of REED's founder and Director, Alexandra F. Johnston that scholarly collaboration and generosity are vastly preferable to their opposites, a view especially appropriate for the study of the most collaborative of all the arts. Thus in making acknowledgments a REED editor, who has benefited so greatly from that ethos, has to cast a wide net indeed in hopes of adequately acknowledging all those who contributed to the making of the volume.

I have been showing up at REED's door with Somerset documents since 1981. More than any other person, REED's gifted Executive Editor, Sally-Beth MacLean, with her extraordinary editorial and diplomatic skills, has been the piloting hand, guiding this complex collection through its intricate development to final publication. The significance of her leadership could not be overstated.

Also inestimable is the contribution, during three years' production and before, of the splendid REED editorial staff, my very skilled colleagues, Abigail Ann Young, William Cooke, Miriam Skey, and typesetter William Rowcliffe. To describe their work as 'editorial support' would hardly begin to describe the collaborative editorial process that occurs in the making of a REED volume or the extent of their contribution. Because of the Executive Editor's democratic approach to editing, and the collective drive for excellence, every word was repeatedly read and twice checked; nearly every line generated discussion; and some especially difficult decisions – how best, for example, to present the Wells Shows – involved the most intense and prolonged discussion among all involved. Thus the contributions of the staff are scholarly, pervasive, and deep, and too numerous – perhaps impossible – to list out but they could be found on every page. While I am responsible for any shortcomings that might be found in the volume, credit for many of its certain strengths most assuredly belongs to the REED editorial family. I consider myself immeasurably fortunate for the opportunity to participate in the kind of collaborative scholarly enterprise that is rare, perhaps unique, but sorely needed in the humanities.

Early in the project, like all REED editors, I also benefited from the meticulous bibliographical research of Theodore De Welles, then REED bibliographer, and his predecessor, Ian Lancashire, University of Toronto, to both of whom I express my appreciation.

I am equally grateful to the University of Wisconsin System for its substantial, long-term support of a project that was both complex and slow to emerge, a support that exemplifies the traditional commitment to research and scholarship for which the System is known. My thanks in particular to Steve Odden, Chair of English, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) for believing me every time I said, 'The volume will be coming out'; Justus Paul, Dean of Letters and Science, UWSP, and Howard Thoyre, formerly Dean of Letters and Science and Vice Chancellor, now Interim Chancellor, UWSP, for their support of numerous research trips, a sabbatical, and several leaves to conduct the research; the University Personnel Development Committee of UWSP and the UWSP Foundation for several research grants, and Kathy Halsey, Interlibrary Loan Librarian, UWSP; the permanent members of the Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison), notably former Directors Robert Kingdon and David Lindberg, and present Director Paul Boyer for welcoming me as a UW-System Fellow twice and as an Honorary Fellow once, and for providing facilities enabling me to undertake concentrated research, in addition to their friendship, collegial conversations, and helpful suggestions concerning the project; and John Tedesci, Head of Rare Books, UW-Madison, and the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries for a Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries Fellowship, making intensive work in those collections possible. One is fortunate indeed to be part of such a great university system.

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Special thanks must be given to the following people on the ground, as it were, in Somerset, where the bulk of the records are to be found, for facilitating access to the records during many visits over a fifteen-year period: former County Archivist, D.M.M. Shorrocks and his successor, J.A.S. Green; Jean Imray, Wells City Archivist (retired); the late Linzee S. Colchester, Honorary Archivist and Assistant Librarian at Wells Cathedral, for providing access to cathedral holdings, for instructive tours of the cathedral, and for invariably directing the Cathedral Library's space heater in my direction (my protests notwithstanding) during the winter of 1983; David Bromwich, Librarian, Somerset Local History Library, Taunton, for assistance with sources and photocopying; Michael McGarvie and Hilda M. Massey, Honorary Church Archivist of St John Baptist Church in Frome, for access to churchwardens' accounts there; and Frank Jarman of the Axbridge Trust for assisting with access to the Axbridge borough records held at the former Axbridge Town Hall by means of a most impressive set of keys.

But the greatest measure of my gratitude to those in Somerset is reserved for those on the staff at Somerset Record Office who assisted in many ways, notably my friend Sue Berry, Senior Archivist, who helped me daily in the most expert way, and also to Tom Mayberry, Assistant County Archivist; Steve Hobbs, formerly at SRO, now County Archivist, Wiltshire Record



Office; Robin Bush, former Assistant County Archivist, now an independent writer and lecturer; Jim Skeggs, former Archival Assistant, and Elizabeth Williams, former Search Room Assistant. Others who have provided considerable assistance to the REED editorial staff on my behalf are archivists Andrew Dowsey and Sophia Popham.

I would like to acknowledge several people who provided substantial assistance at various stages in the development of the volume, notably: Robert Tittler, Concordia University, for substantial suggestions concerning successive drafts of the Introduction; to Peter Clark, University of Leicester, and Thomas Pettitt, University of Odense, Denmark, for valuable editorial suggestions and historical information; A.J. Scrase, University of the West of England, for essential information generously given about burgages, streets, and individuals in early Wells; Robert W. Dunning, Editor, Victoria County History of Somerset, for answering numerous factual queries and providing many other valuable insights; and Jean Manco, Bath, a professional researcher who ably worked with me in searching a number of chapter act books of the diocesan courts.

I am also grateful to many other people for substantial contributions to the volume. Several REED colleagues have come to my aid. Robert J. Alexander, the Bath editor, gave extra assistance with descriptions of documents used for other locations in Somerset. David Klausner, University of Toronto, provided notes and musical notations for the song in Appendix 7. C.E. McGee, University of St Jerome's College, Waterloo, provided help with William Whiteway's diary and, with his fellow editor, Rosalind Hays, Rosary College, gave other assistance related to the Dorset collection and located a document from the Public Record Office. On-site checking and help in procuring manuscripts was given by Elizabeth Baldwin, University College, Dublin; Jane Cowling, Titchfield; Audrey Douglas, Toronto; Alan Fletcher, University College, Dublin; Peter Meredith, University of Leeds; Alan Nelson, University of California at Berkeley; and Diana Wyatt, Wantage.

For similar on-site checking I would like to thank Claire Breay, London; Michael Heaney, Bodleian Library; Margaret McGregor, Westbury on Trym; and Eileen White, Idle, West Yorkshire. My thanks also go to Michael Costen, Department of Extra-Mural Studies, and Jennifer Scherr, Librarian, at the University of Bristol for assistance with place names; Konrad Eisenbichler, Director, Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, Victoria University, University of Toronto, for checking transcriptions, ordering microfilms, and providing translations of items from the Venetian State Archives; Catherine Emerson, Toronto, for checking Latin translations and glossary; Catherine Filejska, Toronto, for checking Italian translations; Lorna Hassell and Tamara Stasik for bibliographical assistance in Toronto; Mervyn Jannetta, English Language Collections, British Library, for help checking an early printed book; Leslie Anne Kerr, Curator, Wells Museum; Marek Lewcum of Somerset for bringing a Somerset minstrel to my attention; Francis Neale, Archivist, Wells Cathedral; Mary L. Robertson, Curator of Manuscripts, Huntington Library; and Subash Shanbhag, Department of Geology, University of Toronto for expert cartography in preparing maps for this volume.

I am grateful to the following archives for permission to publish extracts from their holdings: Alnwick Castle, by permission of the Duke of Northumberland; Bodleian Library, Oxford; Bristol Record Office; British Library; Devon Record Office, by permission of the Exeter City Council; Huntington Library, San Marino, California; Lambeth Palace Library, by permission

of the Trustees; Public Record Office for Crown copyright material and other documents, by permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office; Somerset Record Office, by permission of County Archivist J.A.S. Green; Vatican Library; Venetian State Archives; the Mayor and City Council of Wells, Somerset; Dean and Chapter of Wells Cathedral; and Wiltshire Record Office, by permission of County Archivist Steven D. Hobbs.

I owe a special debt of gratitude to my teacher and mentor, John M. Wasson, Washington State University (retired), for introducing me to the world of records research, for his endless paleography tutorials, and for his encouragement at every stage. He is a true pioneer and the most generous scholar I have ever known.

Finally (but first in importance), I wish to thank my wife Bobbie, who might fairly have said, 'I'm not losing a husband, I'm gaining a project,' but who didn't and instead solved the mysteries of computerized text when I couldn't, keyed in the entire text in all its incarnations, accompanied me on numerous trips to England since 1980, and tolerated those other times when I had to go alone – all while assuming the lion's share of caring for our two daughters and, oh yes, developing her own career.

– James Stokes

## Bath

Principal credit for publication of the Bath dramatic records must go to the Records of Early English Drama, which has inspired this project from start to finish. Alexandra Johnston suggested the Bath edition and supported it throughout. By suggesting approaches to research, corrections of mistakes, as well as solutions to many problems, Sally-Beth MacLean, Executive Editor, provided day-to-day guidance. Robert Tittler, member of the REED Executive Board, contributed extensive comments on the historical introduction, I also followed valuable advice given by him and by Peter Clark, University of Leicester; Robert W. Dunning, Editor, Victoria County History of Somerset; and the anonymous external readers who commented on early drafts. I am grateful, as well, to James Stokes for integrating Bath material with that of Somerset.

Especially in the later stages of editing, William Cooke, Miriam Skey, and Abigail Young improved the quality of the edition by recommending important revisions. A combination of courtesy and meticulous scholarship always made the work progress smoothly. Applause to all at REED.

Without additional encouragement, of course, none of this research could have been contemplated, let alone completed. I am especially grateful to students, staff, faculty, and administrators at Point Park College, who created a positive atmosphere for teaching and study. In addition, the College gave travel awards for many years and released time for completion of research. Deans Albert MacLean, Hsien-Tung Liu, William McIntosh and James Marino, as well as Department Chairs Dorothy Kish and Robert Fessler, helped me to obtain this support.

For most of the funds needed for Bath research, however, I am indebted to foundations: the National Endowment for the Humanities (1993), the American Philosophical Society

(1993), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The SSHRCC granted money to REED for defraying the travel expenses of editors in the early years of the project.

Once in Bath, I would have been lost without the unselfish assistance of Bath archivists and historians. Their enthusiasm for Bath history as well as their encyclopaedic knowledge of Bath documents enabled me to get a feeling for the city's past. City Archivists Robert Bryant and Colin Johnston were always happy to bring out documents; Elizabeth Holland, Marta Inskip, and John Wroughton promptly answered many detailed questions about Bath. The Survey of Old Bath, organized by Miss Holland, has helped stimulate wonderful scholarship about the city's history. For any errors that have somehow eluded the scrutiny of these many helpers, I take full responsibility.

I also extend thanks to repositories which granted permission to publish extracts from documents in their collections: Bath City Record Office, by permission of Bath City Archivist Colin Johnston; Bodleian Library, Oxford; Dulwich College, by permission of the Governors; Public Record Office, by permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office; Somerset Record Office, by permission of the County Archivist J.A.S. Green. I am also grateful to the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas, Austin for supplying me with a copy of Prozheimer MS 142, a letter of Bishop Joseph Hall to Sir Henry Spelman.

Finally, I am very grateful to my wife, Sally, and our children, Joel and Leslie, for their encouragement during my exits from family life to English libraries. I dedicate the Bath dramatic records to my parents, Mr and Mrs Fred Alexander, and to the memory of Sally's late parents, Mr and Mrs Robert E. Hobart, Jr.

— Robert J. Alexander



## RECORDS OF EARLY ENGLISH DRAMA

# Symbols

ASV Archivio di Stato, Venice  
 BL British Library  
 BRO Bath Record Office  
 BRRO Bristol Record Office  
 DORO Dorset Record Office  
 DRO Devon Record Office

PRO Public Record Office  
 SRO Somerset Record Office  
 WCL Wells Cathedral Library  
 WRO Wiltshire Record Office  
 WTH Wells Town Hall

A Antiquarian Compilation  
 AC Antiquarian Collection  
 HMC Historical Manuscripts Commission  
 MARDIE *Medieval & Renaissance Drama in England*  
 NQSD *Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset*  
 REED Records of Early English Drama  
 RORD *Research Opportunities in Renaissance Drama*  
 SANHS *Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*  
 SRS Somerset Record Society  
 STC A.W. Pollard and G.R. Redgrave (comps), *Short-Title Catalogue ... 1475-1640*  
 VCH *The Victoria County History of the Counties of England*  
 Wing D.G. Wing (comp), *Short Title Catalogue ... 1641-1700*  
 \* (after folio, page, membrane, or sheet number) see endnote  
 { ... } lost or illegible letters in the original  
 [ ] cancellation in the original  
 (blank) a blank in the original where writing would be expected  
 ° ° matter in the original added in another hand  
 [ ] interlineation above the line  
 [ ] interlineation below the line  
 ^ caret mark in the original  
 ... ellipsis of original matter  
 | change of folio, membrane, sheet, or page in passages of continuous prose  
 ® right-hand marginale  
 † marginale too long for the left-hand margin

# Boroughs and Parishes

## ASHCOTT

1610

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 163

ff 27, 28\* (8 May)

5

*Proceedings of the court held before Anthony Methwyn, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

Pedwell  
parochie de  
Aishcott

*contra* Stephanum Gregorie

10

Hee keeping an ale had musitions, and dauncers att his howse on sonday the xv<sup>th</sup> of Aprill last att forenoone seruice or evening prayer tyme. Thomas Ramsy missus vti dicit e magistro Hadley vicario de Aishecott. Citatus fuit per Allexandrum Sturton &c 6. Die instantis Maij &c. Quo die reseruata [deliuered to Thomas Ramsey who vsed mr. Hadleys name to giue it him]

15

22 Maij.

[iij s.]

Edington

*contra* Iohannem Pett. seniore.

po:

15 Maij

Hee was one of ye musitions which played on the sabbaoth day tempore divinorum./ vt supra./ citatus eodem per eundem Quo die comparuit et iuratus fassus est that he play(.) on an Instrument on the said sabbaoth day in the backside of the said Steeuen Gre(.)rie in the afternoone & was absent from evening prayer & denyeth that hee played betweene dinner & evening prayer time et habet ad agnoscendum culpam post preces vespertinas vestibus consuetis et ad certificandum in proximo.

20

Ibidem

*contra* Iohannem Pett iuniorem

25

po:

Stet.

Pro eodem. Citatus per eundem 7 instantis Maij etc. Quo die stet quia valde egrotat et claudus incedit

Aishecott

*contra* Willelmum Powder

30

ffor dauncing att the tyme of diuine seruice in manner abouesaid. Quesitus

po:

15 Maij

*per eundem* 6 instantis Maij etc. *Quo die comparuit et iuratus fassus est* yat hee was absent from the churche on the said sonday, but did not daunce vntill after evening prayer was ended, *verte folium* ad + l + but confeseth that hee was in the said Gregories backside, hee found theare with the musitions Iohn Parker & ffrauncis Spenser of the *parishe* of Shapweek aforesaid and that when they came thither they vnderstood yat *eveni*(..) prayer was ended *habet similiter vt contra Iohannem Pett* etc. l  
et *habet ad soluendum* 18 d. *pro dimissione* et 6 d. *pro schedula*

Ibidem

po: 18 d.

15 Maij

*contra Iohannem Palmer*  
Pro eodem. *Quesitus eodem per eundem. Quo die comparuit & iuratus similiter respondet per omnia et similiter actum fuit &c*  
...

10

## AXBRIDGE

15

1582-3

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ax 4/1/1  
p 38\* (15 December-8 December) (Expenses)

...

Item paid at Welles for the playe in owre Church ij s. vj d.

...

20

1582/3

*Chapter Act Book H* WCL  
f 20v\* (20 February)

25

*Proceedings held in the chapter house of Wells Cathedral before Philip Bisse, STD, subdean and president of the chapter, and canons residentiary William Austen, William Jones, and Samson Newton*

30

...

...That forasmuche as it was objected by the Chapter aforesaide to the Skolemaster of the Gramer skoole of welles aforesaide That hee did carrye with him the Children of the Grammerskoole and the Choristers of the saide cathedral Church vnto Axebridge to playe in the *parishe* Church theare the whiche hee confessed, That thearefore the saide Skoolemaster the nexte Chapter daye shall come into the Chapterhowse before the deane and Chapter vz primo Aprilis *proximi* and submitt him self to the Chapter in that behalf, And shall farther *nomine* pene pecuniarie paye vntoe xxiiij<sup>tie</sup> of the poore people of the Almishowse ij s. vz to eache of them j d. before the nexte chapter daye and then shall certifie the same.

35

40

...



1619

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 215

f 235 (16 November)

...

*Officium domini* [Rogerum] <sup>a</sup> Ricardum<sup>1</sup> Saunders  
*Similiter domino iudicanti denunciatur* That he was absent from his parishes  
 church at the tyme of divine service vpon Alholland daie now last past,  
 whenas he kepte dawncinge and tippling in his howse all the said tyme of  
 morninge prayer./ *Kinge Citatus fuit personaliter apprehensus infra parochiam*  
*ibidem per davidem Kinge mandatarium* &c 13<sup>o</sup> die instantis Novembris etc 10  
*super quo fidem fecit etc Quo die comparuit dictus Saunders cui dominus*  
*obiecit deteccionem etc ac eundem iuramento oneravit etc de fideliter*  
*respondendo &c ac monuit etc*

po

*Officium domini contra* Ioannam Saunders eius uxorem

*Pro eodem delicto/ Similiter etc quoad certorium etc Quo die (blank)*

...

1636

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 309

f 57v (24 May)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory before William Piers, bishop of*  
*Bath and Wells, and William Hunt, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of*  
*James Huishe, notary public*

...

*Contra* Iohannem Edwardes.

*Iuratus &c, respondet, & fassus est* that hee did helpe bringe [in] <sup>a</sup> May  
 pole vpon sondaie last was sevensight into the towne of Axbrige betweene  
 one & three of the clock in the morning with a drumme beaten with them,  
 & that hee was that daie att forenoone, & afternoone service att Axbridge,  
 et aliter negavit: Vnde decernitur *Inquisitio*

48: libro 27:

*Inquisitio./.*

*Contra* Robertum Castle

*Iuratus &c similiter atum fuit/*

...

*eodem*

*Inquisitio./.*

5

15

20

25

30

35

## BANWELL

1614-15

*St Andrew's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ban 4/1/2  
p 192 (*Rendered 12 April*) (*Payments*)

...

Item paid the x<sup>th</sup> of September at welles for not presentinge  
The Daunsinge in the churchyard

iij s. ix d.

...

10

## BARRINGTON

1636/7

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 313  
ff 71v-2 (*14 February*)

...

Officium domini contra Thomam Thorne./.  
denunciatur domino episcopo, that hee did in the Christmas time last  
[amongest f] by waie of a Christmas plaie faine himselfe to bee a minister,  
& in a tubb of mr (*blank*) Strodes howse of Barrington aforesaid in a  
hoggshedd before manie people Chuse his text to bee Mault, & delived his  
text into fower partes vzt M: much: A: ale L: little T: thrift, & soe went on  
makeing a longe discourse, or speech theron, to the greate laughter of those  
present, & the disgrase of the clergie; And that before hee went into the  
hoggshed, which hee called his pulpitt, hee had of pupose brought vnto him  
beere, & tobacco, wherof hee toke some, & then fayned him selfe drunck,  
& then went into his Tubb, & spake as aforesaid I to the noe smale disgrace,  
& discreditt of the ministrie: dominus episcopus./.  
Citetur

30

Officium domini contra magistrum Matheum Buckett clericum curatum  
ibidem.

ffor beeing present, seeing, & heeringe the same, & not acquainting the said  
reuerend father therwith./ Idem.

Quo die comparuit, quem dominus monuit ad comparandum in proximo ad  
respondendum detectioni &c./

...

21/ delived: for divided (?)

28: ffebruarij

28: ffebruarij

## BATH

## 1433-4

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/2  
mb [1]\* (29 September-28 September) (Expenses)

5

...

...Et de xij solutis pro stramine empto & cariagio dicti straminis ad domum  
Iohannis Somerkyng...

...

10

## 1465-6

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/3  
mb [1]\* (21 October-20 October) (Receipts)

...

...Et de xx d. de denarijs receptis de locacione corone Regis ad festum  
Pentecostis Anno isto...

...

15

## 1467-8

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/3  
mb [1]\* (21 October-20 October) (Receipts)

20

...

...Et de ij s. ij d. de denarijs receptis de locacione Corone Regis Bathonie &  
Swayneswyke

...

25

## 1468-9

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/3  
mb [1]\* (21 October-20 October) (Receipts)

...

...Et de ij s. receptis de locacione Corone Regis Bathonie & ad Mersfylde [ij s.]

...

30

## 1479-80

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/3  
mb [1]\* (21 October-20 October) (Receipts)

35

...

...Et de xxij <sup>1</sup>d. receptis pro redditu cuiusdam corone ecclesie illo Anno...

...

7/ xij: for xij d.(?)

15/ locacione: first c corrected from 1

15-16/ festum Pentecostis: 25 May

31/ Mersfylde: Marshfield, Gloucestershire

## 1481-2

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/3  
mb [2]\* (21 October-20 October) (Household expenses)

...  
...Et soluisse pro potacione le playeres in recordacione ludum diuersis vicibus 5  
iiij d. Et soluisse pro ij bushels frumenti ad ijdem ludum ij s. Et soluisse Waltero  
Corryar pro ligno ad faciendum seruiciam dicto tempore viij d. Et soluisse  
Iohanni Slugg seniori pro pane & flora ad ijdem v s. vj d. Et soluisse pro ij  
dosyns seruicie ad ijdem ludum iij s. iiij d. Et soluisse Roberto Chapman pro  
casio ix d. Et soluisse Iohanna Guntscher pro casio iiij d. Et soluisse Ricardo 10  
tanner [ad ijdem ludum] pro pellibus ad ijdem ludum xx d. Et soluisse Willelmo  
Brayle pro staynyng diuersa vtensilia pro dicto ludo ordinata iij s. Et soluisse  
Iohanni Fowler pro carriando le tymber A cimiterio dicto tempore ludi v d....  
...

## 1484-5

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/4  
mb [1]\* (21 October-20 October) (Receipts)

...  
...Et de xij d. pro corona conducta Regi attumnali hoc Anno... 20  
...

mb [2] (Household expenses)

...Et pro renouacione illius corone ecclesie ut in diuersis coloribus & auro ad 25  
ijdem cum manu pictoris ij s. v d....  
...

## 1485-6

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/4 30  
mb [1]\* (21 October-20 October) (Receipts)

...  
...Et de xvj d. pro corona conducta Regi attumnali...  
...

## 1487-8

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/4  
mb [1]\* (21 October-20 October) (Receipts)

...  
...Et de x d. pro corona conducta Regi Attumnali illo Anno... 40  
...

## 1490–1

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/4  
mb [1] (21 October–20 October) (Receipts)

...

...Et de viij d. *pro corona conducta Regi Attumnali illo Anno...*

5

...

## 1492–3

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/4  
mb [1]\* (21 October–20 October) (Receipts)

10

...

...Et de iiij d. *receptis pro corona conducta ad Salffordum illo Anno ... Et*  
*de xij d. receptis de Rege attumnali pro corona ei conducta illo Anno...*

...

15

## 1493–4

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ba.mi. 4/1/4  
mb [1] (27 October–25 October) (Receipts)

...

...Et de x d. *receptis de Rege attumalli pro corona ei conducta illo Anno...*

20

...

## c 1535–43

*John Leland's Itinerary* Bodl.: MS Top. gen. c. 9  
f 39v\*

25

King Eadgar was crounid *with* much ioy and honor at *Saint Peters in Bath*  
wherapon he bare a gret zeale to the towne and gaue uery great frauncheses  
and priuileges on to it.

In knowlege wher of they pray *in* al their ceremonies for the soule of King  
Eadgar. 30

And at Whitsunday tyde, at the which tyme men say *yat* Eadgar there was  
crounid, ther is a king electid [for] at Bath euery yere of the tounes men *in* the  
ioyfulle remembraunce of King Edgar and the privileges gyuen to the toun by  
*hym*. This king is festid and his adherentes by the richest menne of the toun. 35

## 1562

*William Turner, The Natures and Properties of the Bathes* STC: 24366 part 2  
sig B[i]\*

40

...If that a man maye iudge the mater of the effect/ maye gather that brimstone

12/ Salffordum: probably *Saltsford*, 4 miles northwest of Bath

41/ maye<sup>2</sup>: for he maye

is the only mater in these mater in these bathes/ or ellis the chefe that beareth  
 ruel in them. For they drye vp wonderfullye/ and heale the goute excellentlye/  
 and that in a shorte tyme/ as wyth diuerse other one myles somtyme/ one of  
 my Lorde of Summersettes players can beare witnes...

sig B[i]v

5

...I doute whether the negardishe illiberalite/ or the vnnaturall vnkindness  
 of the riche menne of Englande is more to be disprayed/ which receiuing so  
 many good turnes of almightye God/ nowe after yat they know that the bathes 10  
 are so profitable/ will not bestowe one half penny for Gods sake vpon the  
 bettering and amending of them/ that the pore sik & diseased people yat  
 resorte thither/ might be better & soner holpen when as they are there. There  
 is money inough spent vpon cockfightinges/ tenesplayes/ parkes/ bankettinges/  
 pageantes & playes seruing only for a shorte tyme yat pleasure oft tymes/ but 15  
 of priuat persones/ which haue no nede of them...

...

### 1568-9

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 3

20

mb [1]\* (June 1568-8 June 1569) (*Annual expenses*)

...

Cotte Clothe for the bage pype player viij s. vj d. to the erle of Worsyters playors  
 iij s. (...) ... to the waytes of brystowe a gaynste my lorde of pembrokes Comynge  
 v s.... for levery for the wayettes xxxij s.... to my lorde montgoyes players iij s.... 25

...

### 1572-3

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 4

30

mb [2]\* (5 June-20 May) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...Geven to my Lorde of Sussexe one pownde of Suger for wyne then geven  
 to hym xvj d.... To my Lorde of Wourcesters players vj s. ix d. To Thomas  
 Whibbyn <sup>1</sup> for ffryse<sup>1</sup> to make the musicions Coates [for] xvij s. ix d.... To  
 my Lorde of Sussexes players iij s. ij d.... 35

...

mb [3]

...

...Geven to my Lorde of Essex plaiers v s.... 40

...

1/ mater in these mater in these: *ditto*graphy

24/ (...): several letters obliterated by varnish

## 1574-5

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 4amb [1]\* (9 June 1574-10 January 1574/5) (*Casual receipts*)

...

...of William Acton for taxe money againste the quenes coming iij s.

5

...

*( Gifts and rewards)*

...geven to the queresters of Wells att the Queenes Maiestis being heare x s.... 10

...

mb [2]\* (*Extraordinary charges*)

...for two galons of Beere for them that mended the way at westgate vj d.... 15

paid to the Painter of Salisbury for his worke done at westgate the kinges  
Bathe and att northegate iiij li. xiiij s. iiij d.... for making Scaffoldes for the  
painter viiiij d....for cordes for the oracion place ij d.... paid to the tapster of the harte ffor 20  
the gentleman vschers and hys companyes dynner xij s. viij d. paid for making  
the oracion place xij d.... to Iohn More the fremason for making of the ringe  
of the westgate againste the queenes Maiesties Comyng viij s. ij d....

## 1575-6

25

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 5mb [1] (*May, June, or July 1575-22 June 1576*) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...geven to my Lorde of Warwykes bearwarde vj s. viij d.... geven to my  
Lorde Staffordes players iij s. x d.... geven to Sir Iames ffitziames plaiers iiij s. 30  
ij d....

## 1576-7

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 2mb [1]\* (*23 June-5 June*) (*Gifts and rewards*)

35

...

To my Lorde chamberlaines players xiiij s. iiij d.... Geven To my Lorde  
Mountioyes plaiers on god ffridaie v s.... Geven to the Erle of Bathes players  
vij s. vj d.

...

40

**St John's Hospital Account** BRO: SJ No. 6  
mb [1]\* (23 June-1 June) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

... Geven to the Erle of worcesters plaiers ij s. vj d.... Geven to the bayting of Iohn Chapmans beare xij d....

...

5

1577-8

**Chamberlains' Accounts** BRO: CA No. 7  
mb [1]\* (6 June 1577-30 June 1578) (*Gifts and rewards*)

10

...

...to the tumblers v s. to my lorde of svssexe playors v s.... to my lorde of Lesyters playors xiiij s.... geven to my lorde Mvntegves playors ix s. to my lorde mvngeyes players vj s.... geven to Sir Richarde Rogers players vj s.

15

1578-9

**Chamberlains' Accounts** BRO: CA No. 8  
mb [1] (1 July-9 June) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Item given to my Lord Barkleis plaiers the xj<sup>th</sup> of Iulij iiij s. iiij d.... to the Lord Vicount Harvordes plaiers ij s. iiij d., to my Lord Charles Haywardes plaiers iiij s. vj d., for an Ox which was given to my Lord Chamberlaine v li. xij s., to the Trvmpteters that blewe at his comynge vs.... to my Lord of Darby his plaiers iiij s., to my Lord Chamberlaines plaiers x s. vj d., to my Lord Stranges plaiers v s. ij d., to my Lord Barkleis players vij s. ij d....

20

25

...

1580-1

**Chamberlains' Accounts** BRO: CA No. 11  
mb [1]\* (13 June 1580-15 June 1581) (*Gifts and rewards*)

30

...

Inprimis geven to my lord Sheffylde's Players v s. v d.... Geven to the lord Strange his players vij s. ix d. Geven to the lord of Darby his Players xv s. Geven to the lord Bartleyes Players vij s. iiij d.

...

35

1581-2

**Chamberlains' Accounts** BRO: CA No. 10  
mb [1]\* (16 June-10 June) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...to my lord Bartleyes (...) ... to Mr longe when his skollers (...) ...

40



## 1582-3

**Chamberlains' Accounts** BRO: CA No. 14mb [1]\* (11 June 1582-15 June 1583) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Inprimis Geven to mr longe for a playe vj s. j d. to William Tucker for playinge  
 on his Instrumentes the same tyme ij s. To mr longe <sup>for</sup> an other playe iij s.  
 iiij d.... To my lord of Hunsdon his players x s. ij d. To my lord Staffordes  
 players vj s. x d. To my lord Bartlett's players ix s. j d. To my lord of Darby  
 his players xvj s. iiij d. To the lord Shandoy's his players ix s. ij d. To the lord  
 of Oxeford his players vij s. xj d....

10

## 1583-4

**Chamberlains' Accounts** BRO: CA No. 16mb [2] (16 June-15 June) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...To the lorde of hunsdons players in lune vij s. viij d. to the Quenes  
 players xx s. vij d. ob.... to the lorde Bartleyes players x s. to the master of  
 the Revells players v s. To the lord Shandoyes players v s....

...

15

20

## 1584-5

**Chamberlains' Accounts** BRO: CA No. 18mb [1]\* (16 June-16 June) (*Gifts and rewards*)

Inprimis to the lord of Oxefordes Players vij s. ix d. To the lord Barkleys  
 Players xiiij s. iiij d.... To the lord of Essex players vij s. iiij d....

mb [2]\*

...To the lord of Oxefordes players x s. To the lord Shefflydes players ij s....

...

30

## 1585-6

**Chamberlains' Accounts** BRO: CA No. 20mb [1]\* (17 June-14 June) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Inprimis given to my Lord of Sussex plaiers the xxij<sup>the</sup> of Iulye vij s. viij d.  
 given to my Lord of Lecesters players in Awgust xiiij s.... given to my Lord  
 of Sussex players in maye 1586 vj s. ix d....

...

35

40

BATH 1586-90

## 1586-7

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 22mb [1]\* (15 June-14 June) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Imprimis given to the quenes plaiers xix s. iiij d. and was to make it vp xxvj s. 5  
 viij d. that was gathered at the benche Item given to Sir Harry Rackleffs  
 players viij s. x d. gaue to my Lord Amerales players x s.... given to my Lord  
 of Leicester one ox viij li. given to my Lord of Warwicke twoe sheepe A calfe  
 and A lame xl s. iiij d. given to the waites of Bristoll for plainge at my lordes  
 comynge vj s. viij d.... 10

mb [2]\*

...given to my Lord of Leicester plaiers xxiiij s. viij d. <sup>λ</sup>(ob)...

15

## 1587-8

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 23mb [1]\* (15 June 1587-18 June 1588) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Imprimis To the quenes *maiesties* plaiers the xiiij<sup>th</sup> of Iulie xv s. <sup>λ</sup>(besides [th] 20  
 the gatheringe<sup>1</sup> To the Lord of Sussex plaiers x s. x d.... given to the Lord of  
 Warwicks tumblers vj s. viij d.... To the Lord of Lecesters plaiers xx s....

## 1588-9

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 25mb [1]\* (19 June 1588-20 June 1589) (*Gifts and rewards*)

25

...

Imprimis given to the Quenes *maiesties* plaiers the xix<sup>th</sup> daie of Iulie xxiiij s....  
 given to my lord of Essex plaiers x s. ix d.... given to the Quenes plaiers the  
 xiiij<sup>th</sup> daie of August xvij s. more given by master mayor to the quenes men 30  
 that were tumblers x s....

...

## 1589-90

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 27mb [1] (21 June-20 June) (*Gifts and rewards*)

35

...

...paid to the quenes *maiesties* plaiers in November 1589 xv s....

## 1591-2

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 29mb [1]\* (June 1591-10 June 1592) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...paid to my Lord Darcies players ix s. vj d., paid to the quenes players xv s. 5  
vj d. besides that which was given by the companie paid to my Lord Admiralls  
players xvj s. iij d.... paid to the quenes plaiers xl s. paid to ye Earle of  
Harfordes plaiers xx s., paid to my Lord Stranges plaiers xvij s.

...

10

## 1592-3

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 31mb [1]\* (11 June 1592-10 September 1593) (*Rents and receipts*)

...

...Received of my Lord of Penbrokes plaiers for A bowe that was broken by 15  
them ij s....

...

(*Gifts and rewards*)

20

...paid to the quenes berard xiiij s. iiiij d. paid to the quenes plaiers the 22<sup>the</sup>  
of August xiiij s. ix d. paid to my Lord of Montegles plaiers x s. paid to my  
Lord Penbrookes plaiers xvj s. paid to my Lord Stranges plaiers xvj s. iij d.

...

25

*Letter of Philip Henslowe to Edward Alleyn* Dulwich College: ms 1  
ff [2-2v]\* (14 August 1593)

Iesus

welbeloued Sonne edwarde allen I & your mother & your sister Beasse haue 30  
all in generalle our hartie comendations vnto you & verey glad to heare of  
your good healthe which we praye god to conetenew longe to his will &  
pleassure for we hard that you weare very sycke at bathe & that one of your  
felowes weare fayne to playe your parte for you which wasse no lytell greafe  
vnto vs to heare but thanckes be to god for a mendmente for we feared yt 35  
mvche because we haue no leatter frome you when the other wifes had leatters  
sente which mad your mowse not to weape a lytell but tocke yt very greauesly  
thinckinge yat you hade conseved some vnkindenes of her be cause you weare  
ever wont to write with the firste & I praye ye do so styll for we wold all be  
sorey but to heare as often frome (you) as others do frome ther frendes for we 40

30/ Beasse: Elizabeth Woodward, Alleyn's sister-in-law

wold write oftener to you then we doo but we knowe not whether to sende  
 to you therfor I praye you for geat not your mowse & vs for you seant in  
 one leatter that we Rettorned not answeare wheather we Receued [ym] or  
 no for we Receued one *which* you made at seant Iames tide wher in mackes  
 mensyon of your whitte wascote & your lvtte bockes & other thinges *which*  
 we haue Receued & now lastly a leater *which* peter browghte with your horsse  
*which* I wilbe as carfull as I cane In yt now sonne althowge longe yet at the  
 laste I Remember A hundered comendations from your mowse *which* Is very  
 glad to heare of your health & prayeth daye & nyght to the lord to conteneu  
 the same & lickewisse prayeth vnto the lord to seace his hand frome punyshenge  
 vs wth his crosse that she mowght haue you at home with her hopinge  
 hopinge then that you sholdbe eased of this heavey labowre & toylle & you  
 sayd in your leater that she seant you nor worde how your garden & all your  
 thinges dothe prosper very well thanckes be to god for your beanes are growen  
 to hey headge & well coded & all other thinges doth very well but your  
 tenantes weax very power for they cane paye no Reant nor will paye no Rent  
 whill myhellmas next & then we shall haue yt yf we cane geat yt & lyckewisse  
 your loyner comendes hime vnto you & sayes he will mack you such good  
 stufe & suche good peneworthes as he hoopeth shall weall licke you & content  
 you *which* I hope I he will do because he sayes he will prove hime seallfe  
 onest man & for your good cownsell *which* you gaue vs in your leater we all  
 thancke you *which* wasse for kepinge of our howsse cleane & watringe of our  
 dores & strainge our windowes with wormwode & Rewe *which* I hope all  
 this we do & more for we strowe yt withe hartie prayers vnto the lorde *which*  
 vnto vs Is more avaylable then all thinges callse in the world for I prayse the  
 lord god for yt we are all in very good healthe & I praye ye sonne comend me  
 hartely to all the Reast of your fealowes in generall for I growe poore for lacke  
 of them therfor haue no geaftes to sende but as good & faythfull a harte as  
 they shall Desyer to haue comen a mongeste them now sonne we thanck you  
 all for your tokenes you seant vs and as for newes of the sycknes I cane not  
 seand you no luste not of yt be cause ther is commandment to the contrary  
 but as I thincke doth die with in the sittaye & with owt of all syckneses to  
 the number of seventeen or eyghten hundreth in one weacke & this prayinge  
 to god for your health I ende frome london the 14 of aguste 1593

your lovinge wiffe to  
 Comande tell death  
 Iohne Allen

your lovinge ffather & mother  
 to owr powers P.H.A

## 1593-4

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 32

mb [1]\* (11 September 1593-September or October 1594) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...paide and given vnto the Lorde Admiralls & the Lord Norris players xvj s.  
paid and given more to the same players vij s. ix d. paide and given vnto the  
Lord of Wosters players xj s. paid and given more to the same players vj s. x d.  
paide vnto the Quenes players xxij s. vj d.... paid and given vnto the Lord  
Dudleys berrard iij s. iiij d....

...

## 1594-5

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 34

mb [1]\* (September or October 1594-10 October 1595) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

In primis paid vnto the Quenes plaiers xvij s. iiij d. paid vnto my Lord  
Admiralls plaiers xij s. x d....

...

## 1595-6

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 35

mb [1] (11 October 1595-14 October 1596) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

In primis paid vnto my Lord admiralls plaiers xiiij s. ij d. paid vnto my Lord  
of Darby his plaiers xiiij s. vj d. paid vnto the Lord of worstesters plaiers viij s.  
x d....

...

## 1596-7

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 36

mb [1] (15 October-14 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Inprimis gave to the Queenes players at two sundrie times xxxj s. x d. gave  
vnto the Lord of Penbrookes players xx s. gaue vnto the Lord Chamberlins  
players xx s.... gave vnto the Lord of Darbies players xij s. iiij d. paid vnto  
the Lord Shandowes plaiers x s.

BATH 1597-1602

1597-8

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 37mb [1] (15 October-13 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...gaue vnto the Lord Shaundis players xj s. ix d....gave to the Queenes  
players x s.

...

1598-9

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 38mb [1] (14 October-13 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Gave vnto the Lord of Penbrookes Plaiers xiiij s. ij d....

...

1599-1600

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 39mb [1] (14 October-13 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Gave to the Lord heywardes players x s....

...

1600-1

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 40mb [1]\* (14 October 1600-17 October 1601) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Gave to the Younge men of our men that plaid at Cristmas x s.... Giuen to  
the Queenes players xx s....

1601-2

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 41mb [1]\* (18 October-15 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Gave vnto the Earle of Herefordes players xx s. given vnto the Queenes  
Berrardes vj s. viij d. given vnto the Younge men of our Cytte that played att  
christmas vj s. viij d. Item given vnto the Children that played att Candellmas  
v s.... Bestowed vppon the Quenes men for their Kytchinge bread beare wyne  
& sugar viij s. Item paid for their horsemeate iij s. ij d....

...

5/ gave: corrected from to t

36/ christmas: written over erasure

## 1602-3

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 44mb [1]\* (16 October-14 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...Item giuen to A fensor that did plaie before the Shott With the Sword att 5  
 the proclayminge of our Dreade and Soueraingn Kinge ij s. vj d. Item giuen  
 to the Musicions att the same tyme iij s. iiij d. Item paid for fyve gallons of  
 Clarrett Wyne giuen the Shott vppon the Kinges hollidaie xij s. iiij d. Item  
 paid for A pound and halfe of Suger att the same Tyme ij s. iij d. Item giuen  
 to the Musicions att the same Tyme v s. Item giuen to the Kinges players 10  
 xxx s. Item paid for Two gallons of Beare giuen to the Shott vppon the Kinges  
 holliday viij d. paid for A glasse that Was loste att the same Tyme ij d. paid  
 more for Cakes giuen to the Shott att the same Tyme v s. Item giuen to the  
 Lord Admiralls players x s....

15

(*Payments*)

®X

...Item paid to A purseuante that brought A proclamacion to proclayme the  
 Kinges most excellent Maiestie xx s....

20

## 1605-6

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 47mb [1] (12 October-10 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...Giuen to the players att Cristmas v s. Giuen to the Princes players xxij s. 25  
 viij d.... Giuen to the Queenes players xx s.

...

## 1606-7

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 48mb [1] (11 October-10 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...Giuen to the Queens players x s. Item giuen more to the Queens players  
 xx s. Giuen to the Princes players xx s....

35

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 155

f 58\* (2 June)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral*

*before Anthony Methwyn, MA, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

*Officium domini contra magistrum wilhelmum Powell clericum rectorem de Batheweek.*

ffor procuring of a bulbayting in Bathe, and being present theareatt on Monday the xvijth of May last past, and disorderly behaving himself theare, and calling Iohn Masters constable of Bathe knave, verie vnseemlie, and disagreeable to his function: Quo die comparuit personaliter dictus Powell, cui dominus obiecit deteccionem etc/ qui eidem respondendo fassus est &c, vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad confitendum eius crimen in ecclesia parochiali ibidem die solis [px] proximo immediate post lectionem evangelij

16 Iunij

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 155  
ff 163-3v\* (16 September)

*Proceedings of the court held in the house of Anthony Methwyn, MA, surrogate judge*

*Officium domini contra Robertum Corbett.*

Hee being a minstrell did with thease three heerevnder named on Midsomer day now last past during the time of divine seruice in ye afternoone play[ed] vppon their Instruments and maintayned dauncing to the evill example of others: Iohn Hobby, Mabell his wief and divers others then and theare dauncing. Instrucciones pendentes penes filacium sub nomine Willelmi Sandle de eadem And they doe continually play vppon their instrumentes on the sabaoth day contrary to the lawe as by the same instructions doth appeere Citetur in proximum

22 Septembris

*Officium domini contra Anthonium Morly*

*Pro eodem delicto.*

22 Septembris

*Similiter etc.*

*Officium domini contra Robertum Morley*

*Pro eodem delicto.*

22 Septembris

*Simili modo etc./*

*Officium domini contra Nicholaum Smith*

*Pro eodem delicto.*

22 Septembris

*Similiter &c./*



eptembris

Officium domini *contra* Iohannem Hobby  
ffor dauncing in the tyme of divine service, vti in deteccione *precedenti*  
*contra* Robertum Corbett constat.  
Citetur in *proximum*.

5

eptembris

Officium domini *contra* Mabillam Hobby eius vxorem.  
Pro eodem delicto.  
Similiter &c./

...

10

## 1608–9

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 50

mb [1]\* (11 October 1608–16 October 1609) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Inprimis giuen to the Duke of Lynnockes A Calfe A Weather A Lambe and 15  
four Capons iij li. Giuen to the Ladye Marques A Lamm A Dozzen and a  
halfe of Chickens two dozzenes of pygeons halfe A dozzen Cowple of Rabbetts  
and Two Capons xxvj s. v d. Giuen to Doctor Iames in wyne and Suger v s.  
ij d. Giuen to Sir Roger Wynborne in Wyne and Suger v s. ij d. Giuen to the  
Dukes players x s. giuen to the Kinges Trumpeter x s. giuen to Mr Poore in 20  
Wyne and suger ij s. vj d.

...

## 1610–11

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 52

25

mb [1] (14 October–9 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Inprimis to the ladye Elizabeth her players xx s....

...

30

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 163

See Bathwick 1610

## 1612–13

35

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 54

mb [1]\* (15 October–15 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...more payde to Master Maior which he layd out to the Kinges Maiesties  
Trumpiters at the Queenes beinge here in September xl s.

40

20/ Trumpeter: first e written over another letter(?)

*(Payments)*

...to the plomer for new castinge the wine pipe vpon the bridge and for  
soder vsed aboute it vij s....

## 1614-15

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 56

mb [1]\* (16 October-14 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...given to Peter the blinde man for playinge on the Organs at the Queenes  
lyeing here v s. to the Kinges Tompeters xxij s. to the Queenes waynemen 10  
xx s. to the Queenes littermen xx s. to the Queenes footemen xl s. to the  
Queenes Coatchemen xx s. to the Queenes Tumpeters xl s. to the Queenes  
Porter xx s. to the Queenes Guardes xx s. to the Queenes Drommers xiiij s. iiij  
d. to the blacke garde xiiij s. iiij d.... 15

...

*Bill of Complaint in Perman et al v. Bromley et al* PRO: STAC 8/237/26 item [1]  
single mb\* (8 November)

To the Kinges most excellent *Maiestie*

In all humblenes compleyninge shewe vnto your most excellent *Maiestie* your  
Hignes true faythfull and obedient Subiectes Peter Perman of the Cittie of  
Bathe in your Highnes Countie of Somerset gentleman and <sup>^</sup>(Marie) his wife,  
That where the framinge, makinge, contryvinge, publishinge, dispersinge 25  
and castinge abroad of libelles and Rymes slaunderous and defamatorie  
wrytinges and verses agaynst any of your *Maiesties* faythfull and louinge  
Subiectes to their scandall or disgrace are straitely prohibited and forbidden  
by diverse of your *Maiesties* most wholesome lawes Statutes and ordinaunces  
of this your Highnes Realme of England and not only the makers & contryvers 30  
of any such lybells Rymes verses and slaunderous & defamatorie wrytinges  
But alsoe the publishers, [and] divulggers, and dispersers thereof, or of any  
such libells Rymes & verses have byne sharpely & severely punyshed for ye  
same accordinge to iustice and their owne demerittes Aswell in the tyme of  
your *Maiesties* most happie & prosperous Reigne ouer this Realme of England 35  
(as alsoe in the Reigne of the late Queene Elizabeth of famous memory, and  
of divers other your Highnes most noble progenitors Kinges and Queenes of  
this Realme), By meanes of which iuste and due punishmentes inflicted vppon  
the offenders therein, all other your *Maiesties* good and louinge Subiectes might

11/ Tompeters: *for* Trompeters

13/ Tumpeters: *for* Trumpeters

23/ Hignes: *for* Highnes

have taken example and have byn deterred and affrighted from Comyttinge or doinge the like afterwarde. And where alsoe your sayd Subiectes for the space of fyfteene yeares now last past have byn married togeather accordinge to the lawes of holy Church, and <sup>Λ</sup>have<sup>1</sup> euer sythence lived in lawfull matrymony louingly peaceably and quietly as man and wife ought to doe, 5 and have mayneteyned them selves and their familie in comely and decente sorte, and both of them have alsoe lyved free and cleere from any touche or suspicion of Adultery whoredome, or any other notorious Cryme or offence whatsoeuer, and they both likewise have lyved by all the foresayd tyme in the sayde Cittie of Bathe in good name fame & reputacion aswell amongst 10 their neighbours there of the best sorte, as alsoe <sup>Λ</sup>in the good opynion [in the opynion]<sup>1</sup> of diuers others your Maiesties loyall, and louinge Subiectes of higher place and qualitie, (your sayd subiecte Marie for the most parte of her youth havinge byne bred & brought vpp in Courte, vnder greate and honorable Ladies attendinge on[e] their persons, And sythence that tyme hath 15 byn preferred into the roome & place of a sworne seruant and gentlewoman, to attende ye Royall person of the Queenes Maiestie that now is, att such seuerall tymes as her Grace came to the sayde Cittie of Bathe, wherein she soe well & dutyfull demeaned and behaved her selfe, & free and cleare from the least suspition of lascivious, or wanton behaviour, <sup>Λ</sup>as<sup>1</sup> that her service therein well pleased her Royall Maiestie. Yet soe it is (if it may please your most excellent Maiestie) That one Thomas Bromley of the sayd Cittie of Bath aforesayd gentleman, Iohn Wynter of the same Cittie gentleman, Isaac Gossett of the same gentleman, william Horton of the same gentleman, 20 Thomas Norris of the same gentleman, walter wood of the same gentleman, Thomas wilborne of the same gentleman, Iohn Blacklich of the same vintner Phillipp George of the same mercer and Phillipp Hull of the same spinster, All or most of them (thoughe gentlemen in name & blood) yet not of the best Condicion nor qualitie fyttinge their seuerall callinges and they greatly envyeinge your sayd subiectes quiett & peaceable estate & happines, without 30 any cause or coloure of cause to them or any of them given by your sayd subiectes or eyther of them in the Monthes of Iuly, August, and September <sup>Λ</sup>now last past<sup>1</sup> in the present Twelveth yeare of your Maiesties most happie and prosperous Reigne ouer this Realme of England [ <sup>Λ</sup> ] [ { . . } s { . . . } people ]<sup>1</sup> and att diuerse other tymes aswell before as sythence, did vnlawfully and maliciously 35 plott conspire practise, confederate and agree togeather amongst them selues, & with diuerse others of like euill disposicion to your sayd subiecte as yett vnknowne (whose names beinge discouered & knowne, your subiectes humblie pray libertie to inserte into this bill and they to be made parties therevnto) howe & by what meanes, they might caste an imputacion of 40

19/ dutyfull: *for* dutyfully

Infamy and disgrace vppon your sayd Subiecte Marie Perman of incontinent  
 and adulterous lyfe, and thereby in the ende to worke and procure a separation  
 and dislike betweene your sayd Subiectes to theire vtter ouerthrowe and  
 vndoeinge. In execucion and performance of <sup>11/</sup>which [...] sayd wicked &  
 malicious plott practyse & conspiracie of the sayd Thomas Bromley and the  
 rest of the sayde Conspirators aforenamed & the others yet vnknowne. They  
 the sayd Thomas Bromley Iohn wynter Isaac Gossett william Horton Thomas  
 Norris walter wood Thomas wilborne Iohn Blacklich Phillip George and  
 Phillipp Hull in the sayd monthes of Iuly August and September last aforesayd,  
 did most wickedly maliciously and falsly, frame, contriue, devise and make  
 [...] a very infamous lewde and slaunderous libell, and defamatorie wrytinge  
 and Ryme in verse of and agaynst your sayd subiecte Marie, & the same libell  
 and Ryme beinge soe maliciously and wickedly framed, contriued, and made  
 agaynst her your sayd Subiecte, They the sayde Thomas Bromley Iohn wynter  
 Isaac Gossett william Horton Thomas Norris walter wood Thomas wilborne  
 Iohn Blackliche Phillipp George and Phillipp Hull aforenamed & thothers  
 yett vnknowne to your sayd subiectes, well knowinge the same to be very  
 false & slaunderous <sup>32/</sup>and tending onely to the infamie & disgrace of your  
 said subiecte<sup>1</sup> yett to the ende to make your sayde Subiect Marie, Odious, &  
 infamous, aswell in the sayd Cittie of Bathe as elsewhere in diuers other partes  
 of this Realme, did publishe, disperse, diuulge, and scatter abroad, diuerse  
 and sundry seuerall copies of the sayd lybell Ryme & verses in wrytinge in  
 the sayd Cittie of Bathe and elsewhere in the sayd Countie of Somerset, and  
 did singe reade, repeate and publishe the same lybell in diuers Tavernes Innes,  
 Alehowses and other places of publique meetings & resorte in the sayd Cittie  
 of Bathe and in the sayd Countie of Somerset, to the greate slaunder Infamy  
 and disgrace of your sayd subiecte, The tenor & substance of most parte of  
 which sayde slaunderous & infamous libell, Ryme and verses followeth in  
 theis woordes (viz) Of all the whoores that I have knowne, ffrom Courte that  
 came vnto our Towne, Theres none compares with Muddy Mall, That plays  
 the whoore from springe to fall: ffrom springe to fall was neuer see, A pockie  
 Iade worse than Marie, All honest woemen doe her scorne, because shee was  
 a bastarde borne, A bastarde borne of Noble race, which makes her weare a  
 brasen face, A brasen face of Opeall hue, An arrant whoore fytt for a stewe,  
 Yf you have golde she shoves her arsse, yf you have none shee burnes your  
 tarsse, Shee keepes her selfe iuste like a puncke, and layes <sup>32/</sup>her<sup>1</sup> heeles agaynst  
 a truncke, Agaynst a truncke shee layes her feete, And wipes her Cuntt with  
 a fowle sheete and the resydue and other parte of ye sayd lybell Ryme & verses  
 is soe obscenous and fowle as it is not fytt herein to be wrytten or remembred,

11/ [...]: erasure covered by line fillers

32/ woemen: corrected from weomen (?)

neyther is the same fyttinge or decen<sup>t</sup>e for any modest eyes to reade or eares  
 to heare. And the sayd infamous lybell Ryme & verses beinge soe wickedly  
 and maliciously framed contrived and made by the sayd Thomas  
 Bromly Iohn wynter Isaac Gossett, william Horton Thomas Norris walter  
 wood Thomas wilborne Iohn Blackliche Phillipp George and Phillipp Hull  
 & thothers yet vnknowne in manner & fourme aforesayd was by them and  
 euery of them published (as is aforesayd), and diuers Copies thereof  
 wrytten & made by the said Conspirators & libellers aforesayd and diuulged  
 scattered & dispersed abroade in seuerall places before expressed <sup>1</sup>And<sup>1</sup> They  
 the said Conspirators & euery of them diuers & manie seuerall tymes & in  
 manye seuerall places did openly affirme publishe and declare that the said  
 infamous Libell Ryme and verses were made and framed onely of and by  
 your said subiect Marie Perman, and that by the name of Muddy Mall, &  
 Marye therein mencioned, your said subiectes Christen name (Marie) was  
 onely entended & meant, & noe other person whatsoever. And the sayd  
 Thomas Bromley the more to scandalize the good name & reputacion of  
 your said subiectes att diuers tymes sythence the makinge and publishinge of  
 the sayd wicked & malicious libell & Rymes in manner before expressed in  
 many and diuers places of publique meetings & resorte, & euen in the markett  
 place within the sayd Cittie of Bathe, when as the seruantes of Butchers &  
 Tanners there inhabitinge, have borne or carryed alonge the <sup>1</sup>streetes there<sup>1</sup>  
 Rawe hides, or skynnes of [any] Oxen [or] kyne <sup>1</sup>or beastes<sup>1</sup> with their hornes  
 hanginge thereon: He the sayd Thomas Bromly hath poynted att the sayd  
<sup>1</sup>hides or<sup>1</sup> skyns with their hornes, and sayde that the same <sup>1</sup>hides or<sup>1</sup> skyns  
 were the night gownes of his vncle Peter Perman (meaninge & intendinge  
 thereby your said subiect Peter Perman) By meanes whereof your said Subiecte  
 Mary is much defamed slaundered, disgraced and hindered in her good name  
 Creditt and reputacion, to the damage hurte and greate preiudice of both  
 your said subiectes. In tender consideracion whereof and for as much as the  
 makinge contrivinge framinge and devisinge of infamous and slaunderous  
 Lybells <sup>1</sup>verses<sup>1</sup> and wrytinges, and the publishinge dispersinge scatteringe  
 abroade and makinge copies thereof and all other the offences and misdemeanors  
 aforesayde are not only greate & heynous offences and deserve very sharpe &  
 seuer punishment for examples sake to the terryfyinge of others, But alsoe  
 are agaynst the lawes Statutes & ordinaunces of this your Highnes Realme of  
 England, and were all done & Committed since your Maiesties last most  
 gracious generall & free pardon, And are alsoe to the greate damage preiudize  
 and hinderance of your said Subiectes in their <sup>1</sup>good names<sup>1</sup> Credittes  
 and livelyhood, May it therefore please your most excellent Maiestie of your  
 abundant Clemencie to graunte vnto your said Subiectes your Highnes most  
 gracious wryttes of Subpena to be directed to the sayd Thomas Bromley, Iohn

wynter, Isaac Gossett, william Horton [...] Thomas Norrys, walter wood, Thomas wilborne, Iohn Blackliche, Phillipp George, & Phillipp Hull and euery of them, and to the others yet vnknowne when they shalbe discouered & knowne Commaunding them & euery of them thereby att a certeyne day & vnder a certeyne payne therein to be lymmyted personally to be and appeare before your Maiestie and your Highnes most Honorable Counsell in your Maiesties most High Courte of Starre Chamber, then & there to answere the premisses and to stand to and abyde such further order & direction therein as to your Maiestie and the Counsell of the same Courte shalbe thought meete. And your sayde Subiectes accordinge to theire bounden duties shall daylie pray vnto god for your most excellent Maiestie in all felicitie longe to Rule & Reigne ouer vs./

(signed) Robert wyseman

### 1616-17

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 58

mb [1]\* (13 October-10 October) (*Rents and receipts*)

...

...of the Queenes players for the vse of the Towne hall iij s. iiij d....

...

### 1617-18

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 59

mb [1] (11 October 1617-16 October 1618) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

...to the Kinges Maiesties Trumpeters delivered by Master Maior xxij s....

...

### 1619-20

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 62

mb [2] (16 October-14 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Item to the Kinges Maiesties Trumpeters

xxj s.

...

### 1622-3

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 66

mb [2] (12 October-10 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

Item to Master Maior which he gaue to the Kinges Trumpeters 1 0 0

...

1/ [...]: erasure covered by line fillers

## 1629-30

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 273

f [17]\* (16 September)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory before Arthur Duck, vicar general* 5

...

eti Michaelis  
honiensis

Septembris

*contra Iohannem [Tayler] [alias] Philipps<sup>1</sup> et Ianam Howse*  
*ffor beinge present in the howse of one Margerie Smith alias Power of the*  
*same parishe daunceing vppon a sonndaie hapninge shortelie before the last*  
*visitation held att Bathe att tyme of divine service or sermon./* 10  
*Consule examinationem dictae Margeriae Smith alias Power in libro*  
*presentamentorum/ Citentur in proximum/.*

## 1633-4

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 77

15

mb [2]\* (12 October-10 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

l. s. d.

...

*Item to Mr George Chapman for the entertayninge of Sir*  
*Nathaniel Brent the Viccar generall as by his bill appeareth* 6 13 2 20

...

mb [3] (*Payments*)

l. s. d.

*Item for the Musicke for playinge at the supper of the Viccar*  
*Generall* 0 6 0 25

...

## 1635-6

*Chamberlains' Accounts* BRO: CA No. 79

30

mb [1]\* (17 October-14 October) (*Gifts and rewards*)

...

*Item ffor entertainement of the Deputie Leuctenaunts* 7 10 8

mb [3]\* (*Payments*)

35

*Item to the Musicke for playinge at the left Tenaunts Supper* 0 5 0

...

1638-9

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 330

f 25v\* (18 June)

Sanctorum  
Petri,  
& Pauli  
Bathoniensis

...  
Officium domini contra Iohannem Pinckin

denunciatur domino Iudicanti [Quod notatur] That on whitesonday last  
aboute one of the clocke<sup>1</sup> in the afternoone hee [caused] with divers others  
caused the Bull to bee baited to the prophanacion of the sondaie: Wade./  
Citetur

25: Iunij

...

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 330

f 108\* (17 September)

Wells./

...  
Officium domini contra magistrum Daniele<sup>m</sup> Buckley clericum

Quo die comparuit dictus magister Buckley et Iuratus &c respondet that  
aboute tenne of the clocke att night vppon Trinity sonday last past [ab]  
haveinge byn that day ordered minister att Bathe by the said reuerend  
ffather went to Bedd att his Inn in Bathe aforesaid [ab] commonly called the  
Three Tunnes beeing vntill that time accompanied by mr hayward of Bathe  
abouemencioned who brought him from the said lord bishoppes lodginge  
vnto the said Three Tunnes after supper, they haveinge that evininge supped  
at the said lordd bishoppes lodginge, & that hee was not that night att an  
Inn in Bathe aforesaid called the Hart, nor in any of the new made ministers  
companie; And that hee was not acquainted with anie such [com] meetinge,  
drinckinge, or musicke as is detected./. Et Ultera [in] nil actum fuit &c./

Nil./.

1641-2

*His Maiesties Demands to the honourable House of Parliament*

Wing: C2296

p 6\*

...

From Bath.

THE Inhabitants of the Citie of Bath expresse their great greifes in that they  
have had little Company this Summer, they fear that their chief Benefactours  
bends towards the North, and that cold Climate makes them thinke the lesse  
of Bathing, for having had recourse to the waters of Knavesborough their heat  
is allayed, the poor Guides are now necessitated to guide one another from  
the Alehouse, least they should loose their practise, the Ladies that are there

17/ Trinity sonday last past: 9 June

34/ TH: large initial T

18-19/ reuerend ffather: William Piers, bishop of Bath and Wells



are fallen into a Lethargie for want of stirring Cavaliers to keep them awake, were it not for these Nymphes the waters would lose their vertue, Pluto's cauldron had never lesse purboyled flesh in it to please the palate of his Courtiers, the poor Fidlers are ready to hang themselves in their stringes for a pastime, for want of other imployments.

## BATHAMPTON

1603/4

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 34

nf\* (10 January) (*Deposition of Eleanor Crouche, aged 25*)

...

Ad 32 *articulum* respondet that in the twelv dayes last past, ther was a man arrayed in a Surpl<sup>er</sup>, whearwith he being disguised/ did goe about to diuerse houses of the neighbourhoode at Bathampton, to steale Cobb Loves, according as hath byn don in ancycnt tymes and this *examine* did see a man in such a disguised habit at the house of ffather ffisser in Bathampton, [and] but this *examine* doth not certanlye knowe the man soe disguised as she saieth. Et *aliter* nescit [deponer] *respondere*./

Ad 31 *respondet* that the partye disguised as aforesaide was termed by the name of Iames, but whether it weare Iohn Skryne the younger this *Respondent* knoweth not, nor what was meant by naming the disguised person Iames./

...

nf (*Deposition of Elizabeth Skryne, aged 20*)

...

Ad 32 et 23 *respondet* that this deponent well knoweth that there was a man [clad &] arayed in a Surplar that went about the parishe of Bathampton *articulate*, [to] in the twelff dayes last to steale Cobloves, and saieth that <sup>16/</sup> <sup>23/</sup> <sup>28/</sup> <sup>31/</sup> <sup>33/</sup> <sup>35/</sup> <sup>36/</sup> <sup>37/</sup> <sup>38/</sup> <sup>39/</sup> <sup>40/</sup> <sup>41/</sup> <sup>42/</sup> <sup>43/</sup> <sup>44/</sup> <sup>45/</sup> <sup>46/</sup> <sup>47/</sup> <sup>48/</sup> <sup>49/</sup> <sup>50/</sup> <sup>51/</sup> <sup>52/</sup> <sup>53/</sup> <sup>54/</sup> <sup>55/</sup> <sup>56/</sup> <sup>57/</sup> <sup>58/</sup> <sup>59/</sup> <sup>60/</sup> <sup>61/</sup> <sup>62/</sup> <sup>63/</sup> <sup>64/</sup> <sup>65/</sup> <sup>66/</sup> <sup>67/</sup> <sup>68/</sup> <sup>69/</sup> <sup>70/</sup> <sup>71/</sup> <sup>72/</sup> <sup>73/</sup> <sup>74/</sup> <sup>75/</sup> <sup>76/</sup> <sup>77/</sup> <sup>78/</sup> <sup>79/</sup> <sup>80/</sup> 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<sup>826/</sup> <sup>827/</sup> <sup>828/</sup> <sup>829/</sup> <sup>830/</sup> <sup>831/</sup> <sup>832/</sup> <sup>833/</sup> <sup>834/</sup> <sup>835/</sup> <sup>836/</sup> <sup>837/</sup> <sup>838/</sup> <sup>839/</sup> <sup>840/</sup> <sup>841/</sup> <sup>842/</sup> <sup>843/</sup> <sup>844/</sup> <sup>845/</sup> <sup>846/</sup> <sup>847/</sup> <sup>848/</sup> <sup>849/</sup> <sup>850/</sup> <sup>851/</sup> <sup>852/</sup> <sup>853/</sup> <sup>854/</sup> <sup>855/</sup> <sup>856/</sup> <sup>857/</sup> <sup>858/</sup> <sup>859/</sup> <sup>860/</sup> <sup>861/</sup> <sup>862/</sup> <sup>863/</sup> <sup>864/</sup> <sup>865/</sup> <sup>866/</sup> <sup>867/</sup> <sup>868/</sup> <sup>869/</sup> <sup>870/</sup> <sup>871/</sup> <sup>872/</sup> <sup>873/</sup> <sup>874/</sup> <sup>875/</sup> <sup>876/</sup> <sup>877/</sup> <sup>878/</sup> <sup>879/</sup> <sup>880/</sup> <sup>881/</sup> <sup>882/</sup> <sup>883/</sup> <sup>884/</sup> <sup>885/</sup> <sup>886/</sup> <sup>887/</sup> <sup>888/</sup> <sup>889/</sup> <sup>890/</sup> <sup>891/</sup> <sup>892/</sup> <sup>893/</sup> <sup>894/</sup> <sup>895/</sup> <sup>896/</sup> <sup>897/</sup> <sup>898/</sup> <sup>899/</sup> <sup>900/</sup> <sup>901/</sup> <sup>902/</sup> <sup>903/</sup> <sup>904/</sup> <sup>905/</sup> <sup>906/</sup> <sup>907/</sup> <sup>908/</sup> <sup>909/</sup> <sup>910/</sup> <sup>911/</sup> <sup>912/</sup> <sup>913/</sup> <sup>914/</sup> <sup>915/</sup> <sup>916/</sup> <sup>917/</sup> <sup>918/</sup> <sup>919/</sup> <sup>920/</sup> <sup>921/</sup> <sup>922/</sup> <sup>923/</sup> <sup>924/</sup> <sup>925/</sup> <sup>926/</sup> <sup>927/</sup> <sup>928/</sup> <sup>929/</sup> <sup>930/</sup> <sup>931/</sup> <sup>932/</sup> <sup>933/</sup> <sup>934/</sup> <sup>935/</sup> <sup>936/</sup> <sup>937/</sup> <sup>938/</sup> <sup>939/</sup> <sup>940/</sup> <sup>941/</sup> <sup>942/</sup> <sup>943/</sup> <sup>944/</sup> <sup>945/</sup> <sup>946/</sup> <sup>947/</sup> <sup>948/</sup> <sup>949/</sup> <sup>950/</sup> <sup>951/</sup> <sup>952/</sup> <sup>953/</sup> <sup>954/</sup> <sup>955/</sup> <sup>956/</sup> <sup>957/</sup> <sup>958/</sup> <sup>959/</sup> <sup>960/</sup> <sup>961/</sup> <sup>962/</sup> <sup>963/</sup> <sup>964/</sup> <sup>965/</sup> <sup>966/</sup> <sup>967/</sup> <sup>968/</sup> <sup>969/</sup> <sup>970/</sup> <sup>971/</sup> <sup>972/</sup> <sup>973/</sup> <sup>974/</sup> <sup>975/</sup> <sup>976/</sup> <sup>977/</sup> <sup>978/</sup> <sup>979/</sup> <sup>980/</sup> <sup>981/</sup> <sup>982/</sup> <sup>983/</sup> <sup>984/</sup> <sup>985/</sup> <sup>986/</sup> <sup>987/</sup> <sup>988/</sup> <sup>989/</sup> <sup>990/</sup> <sup>991/</sup> <sup>992/</sup> <sup>993/</sup> <sup>994/</sup> <sup>995/</sup> <sup>996/</sup> <sup>997/</sup> <sup>998/</sup> <sup>999/</sup> <sup>1000/</sup> <sup>1001/</sup> <sup>1002/</sup> <sup>1003/</sup> <sup>1004/</sup> <sup>1005/</sup> <sup>1006/</sup> <sup>1007/</sup> <sup>1008/</sup> <sup>1009/</sup> <sup>1010/</sup> 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<sup>1069/</sup> <sup>1070/</sup> <sup>1071/</sup> <sup>1072/</sup> <sup>1073/</sup> <sup>1074/</sup> <sup>1075/</sup> <sup>1076/</sup> <sup>1077/</sup> <sup>1078/</sup> <sup>1079/</sup> <sup>1080/</sup> <sup>1081/</sup> <sup>1082/</sup> <sup>1083/</sup> <sup>1084/</sup> <sup>1085/</sup> <sup>1086/</sup> <sup>1087/</sup> <sup>1088/</sup> <sup>1089/</sup> <sup>1090/</sup> <sup>1091/</sup> <sup>1092/</sup> <sup>1093/</sup> <sup>1094/</sup> <sup>1095/</sup> <sup>1096/</sup> <sup>1097/</sup> <sup>1098/</sup> <sup>1099/</sup> <sup>1100/</sup> <sup>1101/</sup> <sup>1102/</sup> <sup>1103/</sup> <sup>1104/</sup> <sup>1105/</sup> <sup>1106/</sup> <sup>1107/</sup> <sup>1108/</sup> <sup>1109/</sup> <sup>1110/</sup> <sup>1111/</sup> <sup>1112/</sup> <sup>1113/</sup> <sup>1114/</sup> <sup>1115/</sup> <sup>1116/</sup> <sup>1117/</sup> <sup>1118/</sup> <sup>1119/</sup> <sup>1120/</sup> <sup>1121/</sup> <sup>1122/</sup> <sup>1123/</sup> <sup>1124/</sup> <sup>1125/</sup> <sup>1126/</sup> 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And saieth that she believeth it was <sup>h</sup>John Skryne<sup>1</sup> a brother of hers that played that part Et *aliter* nescit (>) *respondere*

...

nf (11 January) (*Deposition of Agnes Jefferie, aged 25*)

*Taken before Mr Methwyn*

...

Ad .32. et .33. *respondet* that this *respondent* hard a little before her coming hether to testifie yat I There was a man arayed vpp in a Surplice and that [v] vppon his head there weare two thinges, which weare called Asses eares, and that he was called by the name of mr Iames, And that this man went from house to house this Christmas last, in Bathampton to steale Cob loaues. And yat amongst other houses he went to Thomas Powles house, & that there he did thrust his head at Thomas Powles wiffe as if he had had hornes to bush her, But whooe that man was she knoweth not, but as she hath hard, it was young Iohn Skryne Et *aliter* *respondere* nescit.

...

nf (12 January) (*Deposition of John Skryne the younger, aged 17*)

*Taken before Mr Clun*

...

Ad 32 et 33 *Interrogatoria* *respondet* et *credit* that this *Respondent* is the man that was arayed in a Sarplar or winno sheete as is [he] in thease *Interrogatories* specified, & had two thinges vppon his heade, formed as it weare two [ye] eares And sayeth that he went soe arayed to most houses in the parishe of Bathampton in that strange attyre to steale Cobloves And saieth that he & the comanie with him went vnto the saide Poles house, & theare this *Respondent* did as he did in other houses, and did not vse himself in anye sorte otherwise then he had donne in such other houses, and aswell the saide Powle as his wiffe seemed to be in noe sorte displeased therwith a prettye while, vntill Iames Charnberne came in/ And saieth that this Iurat in the saide disguised habitt was called by another name vzt. Iames; Et *aliter* nescit *respondere*./

...

29/ comanie: *for* companie

29/ this: is corrected from y

## BATHWICK

1606

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 146

f 30v\* (8 April)

5

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Methuyn, cleric, MA, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

10

*Officium domini contra magistrum willelmum Powell clericum rectorem de Batheweke.*

ffor procuring a marriage to bee solemnized betweene Thomas knighte & delbora Steevens of the countie of Gloucester in the churche of witcombe by Bathe on the xxj<sup>th</sup> of Marche last past, or theareabouts, & for being present att the marriage. And for being a haunter vnto manie vaine & prophane sportes or pastimes as bul-baying beare bayting, keeping of maistifes, playing att tables, for suspition of incontinent lief with Elizabeth Horsington of Batheaston, & with Margerie Greenland, and loane Christofer her servauntes, de eadem.

20

Aprilis

*Citetur in proximum.*

...

1610

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 163

ff 218, 217v\* (27 November)

25

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Methuyn, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

30

...

*contra magistrum Willelmum Powell clericum rectorem ibidem.*

ffor bowling on the sabbaoth day

ffor omitting to say morning prayer on wednesdaies & fridayer, & saturdayes att evening prayer.

35

ffor keeping a beating bull, and being present att the beating of the said bull, att Bathe & att Batheweek./

ffor attempting the chastity of Elizabeth Noble the wief of Thomas Noble of Batheweke aforesaid.

Quo die introducto mandato etc comparuit, et iuratus negavit that hee hath bowled att anietimes on sabbaoth or holyedayer tempore divinorum fassus

40

issio

est that sometymes he hath omitted to reade divine seruice on wednesdaies, fridaies & satturdaies. And that hee hath keppe a baiting bull, & hath bin present att the beating of him, but that hee hath caused him to bee killed. + I + Vnde dominus eundem cum monicione in eis partibus dimisit &c. Tunc quoad attemptum castitatis dicte Elizabeth Noble negauit, et ad eius petitionem 5  
admittit ad purgandum se proprio iuramento &c, qui sese sic purgauit &c./

...

## BAWDRIPI

1585

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 73

f [19]\* (16 July)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before John Daye, 15  
LLD, vicar general, in the presence of Robert Whithorne, notary public*

...

officium domini contra Nicholaum Shewn & Richardum marnier de eadem. Quo die comparuerunt personaliter quibus dominus obiecit That they kept a church al at [ws] whitsontyd last past. nicholas Shewn dicit that the Lord 20  
Polet gave them auctorithy there./ Deinde dominus obiecit that [he being churchwarden] [he and] a may pole by ^[his] the said nicholas and ^[or] others at his procurement ^[or consent] was sett on the topp of the steeple of the church of Bawdrripp at whitsontyd last past and that by his sufferance there 25  
was bowling in the church yeard & dancing there at that tyme in the tyme of devyne service. [vnde dominus] Quam obiectionem negauit esse veram, saving that he confesseth that there was such a pole set vpp but not by his knowledge or consent vt dicit. Vnde dominus indixit ei ^[purgacionem (...)] viz^ ad purgandum se sexta manu vicinorum suorum die veneris proximo post festum michaelis proximum [(...)] facta prius proclamacione./ 30

2 s. 10 d.

## BEDMINSTER

1613

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 27, pt 2

f 84 (14 July)

*Presentment of Richard Kinge and William Brocke, constables, for the hundred of Hartcliffe and Bedminster, at Chard assizes*

...

We present that Roberte Dannille of Bedmister in this Countie of Somerset 40

*within* the hundred aforsaide husbandmane did tiple and sell drincke in his house at Bedmister Aforsaide on the eighte and twentithe daye of Iune laste paste nott beinge licencede And had Bulle Baytinge at his house on the same Daye Aforsaide.

...

5

1629

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 263

f 269v\* (19 May)

10

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral*

Officium domini contra Iacobum Iones. 2: loco.

Denunciatur domino ludicanti that hee was daunceinge on sonday the third 15  
daye of Maye 1629 all eveninge prayer time. Iohannes Curle de eadem/  
Quo die comparuit, & iuratus/ (blank)

...

1634/5

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 294

f 339 (20 January)

20

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Timothy Revett, STD, and William Hunt, cleric, MusB, surrogate judges, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public and registrar*

25

...

Officium domini contra Thomam Hiscockes.

Similiter presentatur for publique bayting a bull in the att the time of Evening  
prayer vppon St: Iohn the Evangelistes daie last wherebie hee withdrewe the 30  
parishioners from prayers. & receaved monie for the same./

## BEERCROCOMBE

1626

*Ex Officio Act Book for Archbishop's Visitation* SRO: D/D/Ca 252

f 79v (20 June)

35

...

Officium domini contra Christoferum Tyse.

Denunciatur domino ludicanti quod [not] hee did helpe fetche a maie pole 40

29/ in the att the: first phrase redundant

4: Iulij vppon Whitsondaie last, and was not att morning prayer that daie by meanes thereof: Morck: Citetur in *proximum*.

Ibidem Officium domini contra Ionam Baker.

Pro eodem delicto./

4: Iulij Citetur in *proximum*.

[Ibidem] Officium domini contra Willelmum Elliott.

Ile-Abbottes Pro eodem delicto./

4: Iulij Citetur in *proximum*.

...

## BERKLEY

1611/12

*Bill of Complaint in Craye et al v. Heskins et al* PRO: STAC 8/92/10 item 4  
single mb\* (28 January)

To the Kings most excellent *Maiestie*/  
Humble Complayning doe shew and informe vnto your most excellent  
*Maiestic* your loyall faithfull and obedient *Subiectes* Roger Craye of the  
*parishe* of Beckington in your *Maiesties* Comity of Somersett yeoman, and  
William Swarfe of the *parishe* of Barkley in your *Maiesties* said Comity  
yeoman, That whereas your said *Subiectes* haue ben for diuerse yeares now  
last past married vnto wives of modest Civill and honest life Carriage and  
Conversacion And haue altogether with their said wives lived in good Credit  
fame and reputacion without anie the least sport, blemish or *aspercion* of  
anie loose or dissolute behaviour or other scandall and reproche but in vpright  
godlie and Christian manner to the generall good likeing and approbacion  
of all their neighbours freinds and familiars, yet Soe yt is (yf it may please  
your most excellent *Maiestic*) That one Iohn Heskins of the said *parishe* of  
Beckington, and Richard Gerratt of the same greatlie maligning and malicing  
your said *Subiectes*, and the good estate Credit and reputacion of them and  
their wives Haue of late verie maliciouslie falslie and vntrue lie detracted  
sclaundered, and ill reported as well in priuate as publique speeches of your  
said *Subiectes* wives their Carriage life and Conversacion wherof hitherto they  
haue had soe especiall Care and Circumspeccion as that they haue not given  
anie iust occasion to anie persons whatsoever to cast anie sclaunderous and  
reprochfull taxes and imputacions vpon them, with a full intent and vpon  
setled resolucion therby to bring your said *Subiectes* and their said wives

into great discreditt and distast amongst their neighbours freindes and  
 acquaintance to noe smale blemishe and impeachment of their good names  
 and estimacions yf they had not bin the better knowne vnto them for the  
 integritie and sinceritie of their lives and Conversacions Since *which* time the  
 said Iohn Heskins and Richard Gerratt perceiving that those their verball  
 detractiōs sclaunders and reprochfull reportes Could not prevaile to effecte  
 soe much in mischeeff against *your Subiectes* and their wives as they intended;  
 And there vppon increasing their malice and purpose to discreditt and diffame  
*your* said Subiectes did within one yeare now last past most vnlawfullie Combine  
 Conspire practize and Confederate to and with one Anne Carpenter a neere  
 neighbour vnto them and diuerse other lewd and ill disposed persons to *your*  
 said Subiectes as yet vnknowne whose names they humblie praie may be  
 [de]l<sup>d</sup> inserted into this bill soe soone as they shalbe knowne and discourred, to  
 devise write divulge and disperse abroad some scandalous obscene and  
 scurrilous libell against *your* said Subiectes and therbie (thoughe somewhat  
 Covertlie) invre a perpetuall note and marke of infamie vnto *your* said  
 Subiectes and their wives and to make them odious ridiculous and Contemprible  
 amongst their freindes neighbors and familiars; According to *which* said  
 Combinacion and Confederacie the said Iohn Heskins, Richard Gerratt,  
 Anne Carpenter and the rest of the said vnknowne Confederates not regarding  
*your* highnes lawes against sclaunderous libellers and publishers of infamous  
 libells being the verie seminaries and nurceries of sedition and dissention nor  
 the happie peace and Concord of this *your Maiesties* kingdome *which* by such  
 libells is often infringed did in or about the monethes of September and  
 October now last past in this present nyneth yeare of *your Maiesties* Raigne  
 ouer this *your* Realme of England most maliciouslie despightfullie and  
 vnlawfullie of their owne wicked heades and Imaginacions devise make  
 Contrive and putt into writting Or Cause and procure to be made Contrived  
 and putt into writting against *your* said Subiectes vtterlie to ouerthrow their  
 good names Credittes and reputacions One most infamous sclaunderous  
 and reprochfull libell here following vizt William Swarfe I hartelie Comend  
*your* Mare, taile she hath spende I praie take it for noe scorne, for in her  
 head there hanges a horne; bycause *your* Mare is somewhat pied, she is finelie  
 trymmed for yow to bide; William Swarfe I am to Lett yow vnderstand to  
 warne the courte out of hand, William Swarfe headman, Roger Craye  
 headman, ffrauncis Lewis Headman, Thomas Maynatt headman All yow that  
 be here in this place must Come to Hughe Cresse and shew *your* lease, And  
 soe I Comend to Thomas Butcher and to Goodman Seild that old bawds  
 This be deliuered to William Swarfe In and by *which* said libell the said  
 Confederattes haue most hatefullie and maliciouslie Coupled and ranked  
*your* said subiectes amongst diuerse base and ill disposed persons of their  
 owne nature and qualitie in the said libell mencioned and such as are therin

termed bawdes and headmen; By *which* libell alsoe and by the word (headman)  
 soe amongst the rest imposed vpon your said Subiectes as aforesaid the said  
 Iohn Heskens and his said Confederates did intend meane and implic and soe  
 haue published and made knowne to diuerse your Maiesties loving Subiectes  
 that they did meane and intend that your Subiectes were by the vnchast and  
 incontinent living of their wives (according to that odious and vulgar terme)  
 Cuckoldes and were foremen and the principall of a Iurie of Cuckoldes and  
 that your Subiectes with the rest in the libell mencioned should appeare at  
 the house of Hughe Cresse whose wife as they <sup>h</sup>haue<sup>e</sup> meant and implied in  
 the said libell and haue alsoe otherwise published and reported to be of an  
 vnchast and incontinent life and haue therfore meant and intended by the  
 said libell <sup>h</sup>&<sup>e</sup> soe published that he the said Cresse was according to the said  
 base and hatefull terme a Cuckold And having thus wickedlie maliciouslie  
 and vnlawfullie deuised, Contriued and putt into writting the said despightfull  
 sclaunderous and reprochfull libell against your said Subiectes with a settled  
 resolucion intent and purpose to defame vilifie and disgrace them and their  
 wives amongst their frendes neighbours and kinsfolkes and most vnchristianlie  
 and vncharitable to Cause and stirre vp diuerse Causelesse occasions of  
 iealousie and discontentment betweene your subiectes and their wives [and]  
 to their great greeff and discomforte, and alsoe yf by anie meanes they could  
 to breed a separacion betweene them; The said Iohn Heskens Richard Gerratt  
 and the said other Confederates as well knowne as vnknowne well knowing  
 that your said Subiecte William Swarfe had a verie good mare worth aboue  
 tenn poundes feeding and depasturing in the Comon feild of Barkley aforesaid  
 did in or about the said moneth of October in the nyneth yeare aforesaid  
 most maliciously and despightfullie according to their former Combinacion  
 and Confederacie shere and Cutt awaie ale the hayre from the mane, head  
 eares, and tayle of the said mare, and did therby soe disgrace her as that your  
 said Subiecte was inforced to sell her awaie for farre lesse then she was worthe  
 And having soe donne the said Confederates in further disgrace of your said  
 subiecte did in libellous, reprochefull and ridiculous manner tye and fasten a  
 payre of great hornes vpon the head of the said mare; And did alsoe fixe and  
 binde the said scandalous and ignominious libell aboue recited vpon the tayle  
 of the said mare, *which* being all according to their former most wicked and  
 vngodlie plottes and proiectes finished and accomplished, The said Iohn  
 Heskens and his said Confederates did in further execution of their malevolent  
 and peruerse hatred and malice with great laughter and derision and with  
 great Clamors showtes and outcries lead about the said mare in open and  
 publick places and waies of passage and trauell to the view and sight of aboue  
 a hundred persons to the great and vsufferable greevance and preiudice of



your said subiectes and to their intollerable reproche and disgrace And not  
 herewithall satisfied but further Coveting and thirsting after the vtter ruine  
 and destruccion of your said Subiectes their Credittes and reputacions by  
 further publishing and divulging of the said obscene and Calumpnious libell,  
 The said Iohn Heskins Richard Gerratt, Anne Carpenter and the rest of the  
 said vnknowne Confederates did with the like intent and purpose to cast a  
 perpetuall shame and disgrace vpon your said subiectes and their wives at  
 diuerse and sondrie tymes since the making of the said libell, and in sondrie  
 places aswell within your Maiesties said Countie of Somersett as elsewhere  
 within your highnes said Realme of England publishe divulge pronounce  
 and spread abroad the said ridiculous scurrill and infamous libell as well as  
 by reading singing repeating and often reiterating the same at Tavernes,  
 Alehouses drinkings and other meetings, and geving forth Coppies therof as  
 alsoe by secrett Casting and priuate Conveying of the same Coppies into the  
 dwelling houses of diuerse and sondrie persons within the said parishes of  
 Barkley and Beckington and other places neere thervnto adioyning as likewise  
 by folding and wrapping vp diuerse Coppies therof in the forme and likenes  
 of letters sent vnto diuerse places within your said Realme of England with  
 superscripcions and indorsementes vnto diuerse of your Subiectes frendes and  
 familiars of purpose and full determinacion vterly to impayre and ouerthrowe  
 the Credittes reputacions and estates of your said subiectes which hitherto  
 they haue in good and substantiall sorte vpheld and mainteined By reason  
 of which said libell and the publicacion therof there haue bin manie affrayes  
 of late Committed, and great murder and manslaughter like to ensue. In  
 tender Consideracion wherof And for as much as the devising makeing  
 contriving writting and publishing of such lewd sclaunderous and wicked  
 libells is a growing dangerous and enormous offence in this age and doth  
 directlie tend to the sowing and increasing of debate strife and hatred betwixt  
 neighbour and neighbour to the breach of your highnes peace and to the  
 vtter vndoing of your said subiectes and doe therfore Condignelie deserue  
 to be verie sharplie and seuerelie punished And haue ben all donn and  
 Committed since your Maiesties last generall gracious and free pardonn. It  
 may therfore please your highnes to graunt vnto your said subiectes your  
 Maiesties most gracious writtes of Subpenaes to be directed vnto the said Iohn  
 Heskins, Richard Gerratt, Anne Carpenter and the rest of the said libellous  
 persons soe soone as their names shalbe knowne and discovered vnto your said  
 subiectes Commaunding them and euery of them therby at a daie Certaine  
 and vnder a Certaine payne therin to be lyimited personallie to be and appeare  
 before your Maiestie and the lordes of your highnes most honorable priuie  
 Councell in your high Courte of Starr Chamber then and there to Aunswere  
 the premisses and to stand to and abide such further order and direccion on  
 that behalfe as to your Maiestie and the said lordes shall seeme to be most

Consonant and agreable to lawe and Iustice. And your said Subiectes shall dailie pray vnto god for the preservacion of your Maiestie long and happilie to Raigne over vs ./.

(signed) Thomas Hughes.

1612

*Answer of Defendant in Craye et al v. Heskins et al*

PRO: STAC 8/92/10 item 3

mb [3] (11 May)

...

The severall answere of Richard Ierard one of the  
defendants to the bill of complaynt of Roger Cray  
and William Swarfe Complaynantes

The saide defendant saving to hym self now and at all tymes heerafter all  
advantages of exception to the incerteanty and insufficie[n]tie of the saide  
Complaynantes bill and saving hym self also the benefit of this that the saide  
Complaynantes do ioyne in one bill of complaynt for severall supposed wronges  
ffor answere to so much of the same bill as doeth hym this defendant concerne  
he sayeth that in or about the tyme in the saide bill mentioned he this  
defendant being then and yet servant to Roger Newborough of Barkley in  
the County of Somerset Esquier was required by his mistris the wife of the  
saide Roger Newborough to ryde for her vppon vrgent occasyon of buisines  
vnto Warmister in the County of Wiltes being about fower miles distant from  
Barkley Where vppon he this defendant rising early in the morning dyd gowe  
into the fiede where this defendant's horse or horsbeast was then at pasture  
(the same being the comon Townefeilde of Barkley aforesaide) to fetch the  
same horse And at his coming into the feilde he espyed (emongest divers  
other mens horses or horse beastes then likewise being at pasture in the same  
fielde) the Complaynant Swarfe's mare in the saide bill mentioned having  
much of the heare of her mane and likewise of her tayle cut away and a letter  
or som like writing hanging at a lock of her Mane which was left vncut:  
Where vppon he this defendant coming to the Mare and taking the writing  
into his hand to looke what it was the Mare (as being afraide) rusht from  
hym and left the writing in his hand: Wherefore he this defendant seing it to  
be folded vp and sealed with wax in manner of a *lettre* but being not able to  
reade it (for he cannot reade writen hand) he therfore went after his owne  
horse and having taken hym vp retorne[n]d home to his saide maisters howse:  
And at his retorne one in the howse which could reade writen hand tooke the  
writing from this defendant and opening the seale reade som parte of it in  
this defendant's hearing importing such effect as in the bill is alledged: But

4/ Thomas Hughes: underlined twice in MS

this defendant, having hast gave litle heede to it: Only he perceiving it to concerne the Complaynant Swarfe a neighbour to Barkley and a freind to this defendant as he conceived he therfore sent word vnto hym by a messenger that he had found a writing in the field hanging at his Mares neck and that he had left it for hym to fetch at his saide maisters howse: But he this defendant dyd then forthwith ryde and hasten about his saide mistres buisines leaving the writing behynde at his saide maisters howse for the saide Complaynant Swarfe to fetch: And accordingly afterwarde the same day or the next the Complaynant Swarfe dyd fetch away the writing: But this defendant dyd not see any hornes about the mares heade: Nor dyd he publish the same writing as in the saide Complaynantes bill is surmised: Neither was the saide Mare of such value to this defendantes knowledg as in the saide bill is set forth: for the Complaynant Swarfe a lide before that tyme had offered the Mare to this defendant for the summe of fower powndes and ten shillinges and would have also given half a yeares day for payment of the money: And this saide defendant for farther answeere doeth say that as vnto and concerning all and singuler the confederacies verball detractions combynations conspiracies devising contriving writing divulging and dispercing aborade or causing to be writen and divulged abroad of the libell in the bill mentioned or any other libell or defamation to the saide Complaynantes or either of them: And likewise as vnto and concerning all and singuler other the misdemeanors and offences mentioned and set forth in the saide Complaynantes bill which are examynable in this honorabell Court he this defendant is not therof nor of any parte therof guilty in such manner and forme as in the saide bill of complaynt is surmised and aledged: All which matters he this defendant for so much as concerneth hymself is and wilbe ready to aver and proove as this honorabell Court shall award: And humbly prayeth to be dismissed the same Court with his reasonable costes and charges in this behalf susteyned/

(signed) Strode

## BICKNOLLER

1610/11

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 11

f 44\* (3–8 January)

To the right worshipfull the Iustices of peace within the County of Somerset assembled at welles Sessions 1610

The humble petition and informacion of Iohn Saffin of Bicknaller [gent]  
 ^ [yeoman] in the behalfe of his *servantes* Mathew Beale and Iane Longe.

...

Item the said Mr Phelps caused the said Mathew to be cyted to the ecclesiasticall  
 Court at Welles for lookinge on players at tyme of dyvine service, wherof noe 5  
 prooffe could be made.

...

## BLAGDON

1573/4

10

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 15

ff [62v-3]\* (16 February) (*Deposition of John Butcher, tailor, aged 24*)

...

Ad primam posicionem posicionum addicionalium predictarum deponit et 15  
 dicit that he this deponent hathe knowen Iohn webbe articulate by the space  
 of iij or fower yeares laste paste whoe is a l mynstrell and a Carpynter dueringe  
 which space of (...) iiij or yeares this deponent soundrie tymes and yn sundrye  
 places hathe ben yn the companie of the same Iohn webbe at weddinges and  
 other merrie meetinges of neighbors But he sayethe he neuer sawe or knewe 20  
 the said Iohn webb drunk or otherwise to behaue hym selfe then becommethe  
 an honest man. And otherewise he can not depose Savyng yat he thinkethe  
 the same Iohn webbe to be but a poore mann [Et]

...

## BLEADON

25

1586

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 73

f [79] (8 July)

30

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory before John Daye, LLD, vicar general*

...

vocentur iconomi de Bleadon eo quod in the tyme of the sermon. ther was  
 pyping tabering & [day] dancing and wold not come to the sermon nether 35  
 (...)

41 Phelps: Richard Phelps, vicar of Stogumber and Bicknoller

181 (...): 8mm deteriorated in MS

## BRIDGWATER

1448–9

*Common Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 33single mb *dorse (Fees and other expenses)*

5

...

...Et in rewaro facto ffustulatoribus de Priouresaysshe in festo Corporis Christi hoc anno xvj d....

...

10

1455–6

*Common Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1664single mb *(Expenses and necessities)*

...

...In tog' phistolator' vij. s. ix. d....

15

...

1461–2

*Common Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 35mb 2 *(External payments and wages)*

20

...

Et in rewaro facto historibus Domini Regis hoc Anno vj s. viij d....

...

1495–6

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1431f 2v\* *(Payments)*

25

...

Item more payd to the schipperdis pagent on corpus cristy day x. d.

...

Item more payd to the Eryll off Arondellis mynstrellis iiij. s. iiij. d.

30

...

Item more payd to my lady þe Kynggis þe moders mynsterllis iiij. s. iiij. d.

Item more to them in Wyne xij d.

7/ Priouresaysshe: presumably Ash Priors, near Taunton

7–8/ festo Corporis Christi: 12 June

29/ corpus cristy day: 2 June

33/ my lady ... moders: Margaret Beaufort, countess of Richmond and Derby, mother of Henry VII

f 3

Item more payd to the Kynggis mynstrellis vj. s. viij d.

...

Item more payd to the mynstrellis of bristowe xx. d. 5

...

## 1503-4

*Common Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1429

f 9\* (*Costs and charges*) 10

...

Item Payd to my lord of derby ys mynstrellys in Monay ij s.  
& in wyne xvj d.

...

f 9v\*

...

Item Payd to my lorde of Schrewysburys ys Mynstrellys in ij s.  
Monay & wyn xvj d.

...

Item Payd to þe kyngys Mynstrellys in Monay and in wyne vj s. viij d.

...

## 1504-5

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1432 25

f 5\* (*Costs*) 10

...

Item payd to the kyngys mynstrellys v s.

Item to my lady the kyngys modyr ys mynstrellys xij. d.

Item ffor a galonne off <sup>an</sup>wyne vnto the mynstrellys viij d. 30

...

## 1524-6

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1433

f 10v\* (*Costs*) 35

Item paid to my lorde off Awdelys mynstrellys xx d.

...

Item paid to the kyngys menstrallys iij s. iiij d.

29/ my lady the kyngys modyr ys: Margaret Beaufort, countess of Richmond and Derby, mother of Henry VII

Item paid to my lorde off Northomberlondys menstrallys      xij d.  
...

## 1527-8

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1434      5

f 6\* (*Payments*)

...  
Item paid to my lorde admyrelles Mynstrelles      xvj d.

...

10

f 7\*

...  
Item paid to þe kynges Mynstrelles      v s.

...

15

## 1528-9

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1435

f 8\* (*Costs*)

...

Item payd to the kynggys mynstrellys      iij s. iij d. 20

...

## 1532-3

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1437

f 10\* (*Costs*)

25

...

Item payd to the kynggys mynstrellys      v s.

...

Item payd my lorde fuarryns mynstrellys      xvj d.

...

30

## 1534-5

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1439

f 11\* (*Costs*)

...

payd my lorde dabynys mynstrellys      iij d. 35

f 13\* (*Costs*)

...

Item payd to my lorde markys mynstrellys      xij d. 40

...

payd to þe Kynggys mynstrellys

v s.

...

payd þe Kynggys players þe satterday after mathos day at  
þe Sarsons hed

iiij s. iiij d.

...

5

c 1537-8

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1451

f 12v\* (*Costs*)

...

Item payd to my lorde markys of dorsettys plyers

iiij s. iiij d.

10

...

Item payd to my lorde markys of dorsettys berwarde

xviiij d.

...

f 13

15

...

Item payd to my lorde yerlle of bathe his plyers

v s.

...

20

1540-1

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1441

f 16\* (*Payments*)

...

Item payde to the erle of byrgewaterse players þat playde at  
master meyrys howsse

v s.

25

...

f 18v\*

...

Item payd to my lorde markys dossett mynstrelse

ij s.

30

...

f 19\*

...

Item payd to my lorde Amrelse players

iiij s. iiij d.

35

...

Item payd to þe erle of bathys players for a Rewarde & dode  
notte play

ij s.

...

40



f 19v\*

...

Item payd to master~~te~~ meyrys for iij quartes of Seke þat  
my lorde amrelse playars had

ix d.

5

...

Item payd to þe mynstrellys þat playd afore master meyre  
at margerry hyattes

ij s. viij d.

...

Item payd to the kynggys playyerse

vj s. viij d.

...

10

f 20\*

...

payd to þe berewarde harry

ij s.

...

15

1542-3

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1436

f 7\* (*Costs*)

...

payd to yerle of bathes berward by Master mayers comandment

xviij d. 20

...

f 7v\*

25

Item payd <sup>ʌ[to]</sup> the playe at master mayers yn cryssmas  
hollydays to gybbys & his company

ij s. viij d.

...

payd to the yerle of bathes players

ij s. iiij d.

payd to my lord markis dossett~~is~~ players

vj s. 30

...

1543-4

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1442

f 17v\* (*Debts*)

35

...

Item payd to harry þe berewarde a fore Syne mathos day

viij d.

...

f 18v\*

°Item payde to my lorde yerle of bathe ys pleerys  
...

v s. °

1546-7

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1445

f 14\* (*Costs*)

...

Item payd to the lord thryll of bathes minstrellis  
...

iij s. iij d. 10

1548-9

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1446

f 9\* (*Payments*)

...

Item payd to the scole master for pleyng of a enterlude  
...

xx d.

f 10v

...

Item payd to my lord protecters players  
...

vj s. viij d.

Item payd to the kyngys trompeter  
...

xij d.

25

1549-50

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1449

f 17v\* (*Costs*)

...

payd to be players of my lorde markys dossett  
payd iij mynstrellis  
...

vj s. viij d.  
iij s. iij d.

30

1551-2

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1456

f 5v\* (*Payments*)

...

Item pyd to my lord herrell of bathe ys mynsterlles  
...

iij s.

40

f 6\*

...

Item payd to the dweke of northe thoumbarlandes plears vj s. viij d.

...

5

1557-8

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1534

f 5\* (25 December-25 March) (Charges)

Inprimis payd to a mynstryll in master myeor howsse the  
second day of febrvarye v s.

10

v s.

...

f 6 (24 June-29 September)

15

Inprimis payd to my lord[.] of oxfords plears the xxv  
Daye of Ivin vij. s. viij d.

vij. s. viij d.

...

1559-60

20

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1460

f 9v\* (25 December-25 March) (Payments)

...

Item payd to the Erell of oxfowrd pleeres for a reward x s.

x s.

...

25

f 11 (24 June-29 September)

...

Item payd the xx<sup>the</sup> of Iuly to my Lordes Robart Dwdlys  
plears for a reward

xiiij s. iiij d.

30

...

1561-2

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1461

f 6\* (25 December-25 March) (Charges)

35

...

payd vnto ij mynstrells at Crismas

ij s.

...

f 10\* (25 March-24 June)

...

payd vn to the berrowde

...

xiiij d.

## 1562-3

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1463

f 5\* (29 September-25 December) (Payments)

ffyrst paid vnto Ser percyvale hartes men for a play

...

vj s. viij d. 10

Item paid vnto Mr foskews men for playnge towardes thear play

...

xviij d.

f 5v\*

...

Item paid vnto my Lorde ambrose Dudleys men for a play

Item paid p for iij li. of Candelles for the said players

...

viiij s.  
vij d. ob.

f 20\* (24 June-29 September)

...

Imprimis paid to The Erle of Warwykkes players

...

x s.

## 1564-5

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1464

f 2\* (29 September-25 December) (Payments)

...

paid Mr foskewes men which played at the chwrtch howse

...

ij s. 30

f 5\* (25 December-25 March)

...

Item payd the qwenes gester and a pvrtyvant that browght  
the proclamacyon for the obeyinge of offyceres

...

v s. iiij d.

35

f 8 (25 March-24 June)

...

Item payd my lord mvnges players

...

x s.

40

f 11 (24 June-29 September)

...

payd the qwenes magestyes playeres xiiij s. iiij d.

...

5

## 1565-6

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1465

f 15 (25 March-24 June) (Payments)

...

Item paid To my lord[e] of Hundesdon plaers x s. 10

...

f 15v (24 June-29 September)

...

Item paid vnto the Erle of Worsetor plaers iiij s. viij d. 15

...

## 1566-7

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1544

f 8\* (25 March-24 June) (Payments)

...

Item paid to the wayttes of Brysto the 26 of marche iiij s. iiij d.

...

f 9 (24 June-29 September)

...

Item paid to the quenes pleares the x<sup>th</sup> of Ivly xiiij s. iiij d.Item more paid to my lorde mvnges playares the xiiij daye  
of Iuly

vj s. iiij d.

...

30

## 1568-9

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1549

f 4v\* (November 1568-December 1569) (Payments)

...

Item delewered too Tomas hwnt the last of awgwst too  
gwe the qwynes pleeres

xiiij s. iiij d.

Item more delewerde heme too gyve too my lordes  
mwnges men

x s.

...

40

## 1570–1

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1467  
f 9\* (25 March–24 June) (Payments)

...

Item payd to my lord Earle of wursitars pleare

xiiij s. iiij d. 5

...

paid to the wayghtes of Bristowe

ij s.

...

f 10\* (24 June–29 September)

10

...

paid to my Lord Mownt Ioyes players

iiij s. iiij d.

...

## 1571–2

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1468  
f 9 (25 March–24 June) (Payments)

15

...

paid the last of Aprill to Mr Barcklyes players

viij s. viij d.

...

20

## 1572–3

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1469  
f 6v (25 December–25 March) (Payments)

...

paid to the Earle of Wvssytars playeres

xiiij s. iiij d.

...

25

f 7v (24 June–29 September)

...

paid to my Lord Mowntioyse players

x s.

...

paid to my lord (blank) Berryard

iiij s. iiij d.

...

35

## c 1575–6

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1462  
f 6\* (29 September–25 December) (Payments)

...

Item more paid to Sir Iaymes fze Iames men

x s. 40

...

## f 7\* (25 December–25 March)

...

Item more paid Lorde Dellaware men the xiiij<sup>th</sup> of marche  
for there plee

x s.

...

5

## f 8 (25 March–24 June)

...

Inprimis paid to my Lorde of worsetor men the v<sup>th</sup> of  
Iune for there plea in the halle

x s. 10

...

## 1579–80

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1564

## f 4\* (5 November 1579–6 December 1580) (Payments)

15

...

Item paid to Mr castellman for that you layd owt to  
the berarde in desembar

iiij s. iiij d.

...

20

## f 6\*

...

Item paid to thomas vallenens the xj<sup>th</sup> of Ivlye for the  
mackyng & the hedyng of a Drvm for ye towne

x s.

...

25

Item paid to Atherdan my lordes man for techyng skollares  
playe on the Drvm ye xxviiij<sup>th</sup> of Ivly

x s.

Item paid to thomas vallandes the xvj<sup>th</sup> of Ivly for the makyng  
& hedyng of a Drvm for the towne

x s.

...

30

## f 6v\*

...

Item paid to mother tellbre for brayes for the Drvmes

iiij d.

Item paid to Rycharde hoper for the mending of Mr Broftones  
Drvmes that ye larnares brocke at ye skolle

35

xij d.

...

## 1580-1

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1566

f 2v\* (7 December 1580-13 December 1581) (Payments)

...

Item paid to Iohn Daye for a payor of Drvm steckes

iiij d. 5

...

f 3v\*

...

Item paid to a berarde the xx<sup>th</sup> daye of Ivly by Master mayores  
comawndement then beyeng Mr thomas

iiij s. iiij d. 10

...

f 4\*

...

Item paid the xix<sup>th</sup> Daye of septembar to the playares beyeng  
my lorde of wossetares men by Mr thomas

xiiij s. iiij d. 15

...

## 1581-2

*Water Bailiffs' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1474

f 10\* (7 October-30 September) (Payments)

...

Item paid to my Lordes comtons beredes for a Reward

v s. 25

...

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1568

f 2v\* (December-December) (Payments)

...

Item paid to the qvenes berwarde the fyrste daye of maye by  
the comawndement of Mr Bvcken then mayore with other  
of his brethern

x s. 30

...

f 3v

...

Item paid the xxx<sup>th</sup> Daye of Ivly to my lorde of wosetares  
men that played at the havlle

xiiij s. iiij d. 35

...



## 1583-4

**Town Receivers' Accounts** SRO: D/B/bw 1572

f 4\* (November 1583-January 1584/5) (Payments)

...

Item paid to Mr Barkles men that pleyed at the comen  
havlle in Decembar

5  
xiiij s. iiij d.

...

f 8\*

...

Item paid to Mr thomas for that hee layed owt to the Erell  
of oxvardes men that played here

10  
xx s.

...

f 9v

...

Item paid to my lorde Barkles men that played at the hawlle  
the ix<sup>th</sup> daye of decembar

15  
x s.  
20

...

## 1585-6

**Water Bailiffs' Accounts** SRO: D/B/bw 1576

f 5\* (October-October) (Payments)

...

Item payd to the fyrste pleares

vij s. 25

...

f 6\*

...

Item payd to the quenes pleares

xxx s. 30

...

## 1586-7

**Town Receivers' Accounts** SRO: D/B/bw 1577

f 4v\* (25 March-20 November 1586) (Payments)

...

paid for a Interlude to my lord Staffordes men ye 23<sup>th</sup> of  
october

35  
00 li. 13 s. 04 d.

...

## 1591-2

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1580

f 5\* (October 1591–November 1592) (Payments)

...

£ s. d. 5

...

paid the pleares the same Daye by Master Mayores  
apoyntment

00 13 04

...

f 6

10

...

£ s. d.

...

paid the pleares the 29<sup>th</sup> of avgost by Master Mayores order

00 10 00 15

...

paid mye Lord of Wostares playeres the 10<sup>th</sup> of september

00 13 04

paid a strange preacher the same daye by Master Mayores  
order

00 05 00

...

20

## 1592-3

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1581

f 5\* (29 November 1592–28 December 1593) (Payments)

...

25

mor gave the qeens pleares the 3<sup>th</sup> of apreil

00 15 00

...

mor gave mye Lord mvntygves pleares the 10<sup>th</sup> of lully by  
Master Maiores order beinge Mr William Ions

00 15 00.

...

30

f 6\*

...

mor payde my L admeralles pleares bye Master Mayores  
order beinge Mr alexsander Iones

01 00 00 35

...

mor paid my L sandyshes pleares the 28<sup>th</sup> november

01 00 00

...

7/ the same Daye: 9 July

29/ 00 15 00.: altered from 00 13 04

34/ L: for Lord; abbreviation mark missing

37/ L: for Lord; abbreviation mark missing

## 1593-4

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1582

f 4v\* (December-December) (Payments)

...	£	s.	d.	5
...				
mor gave the qveens pleares by Master mayores order	01	00	00	
...				

## 1594-5

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1583

f 3\* (6 December-3 December) (Payments)

...	£	s.	d.	
...				15
mor payde the 3 <sup>th</sup> of aprell by master mayores order vnto mye Lord mvntygves pleares	00	13	04	
...				
mor payde the 29 <sup>th</sup> of aprell by master mayores order vnto the qveens pleares 20 s.	01	00	00	20
...				

f 3v

...	£	s.	d.	25
...				
mor payd bye Master Mayores order the 6 <sup>th</sup> of octtober to mye Lord stafordes pleares	00	06	08	
...				
				30

## 1595-6

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1584

f 3\* (10 December-10 December) (Payments)

...	£	s.	d.	35
...				
mor gave the qvenes pleares by Master Mayors ordre	01	00	00	
...				

f 3v\*

...

...

£ s. d.

mor to my Lorde nobells pleares by Master Mayores ordre  
the 10<sup>th</sup> of avgust

00 13 04

...

## c 1595-6

*Quarter Sessions Order Book* SRO: Q/SO 1(4)

p 6\* (*Persons ordered to appear at Bridgwater general sessions*)

...

relaxatus

14 Iohannes fulbrooke senior

°for playinge at vnlawfull games &  
keepinge night watch in his howse  
with dawnsinge on holydayes°

...

## 1596-7

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1605

f 5\* (*December-December*) (*Payments*)

...

paied to the Erle of Woosterdes men for a play

x s.

...

f 11v\*

...

payd to the pleares with stoles sone whiche one of them  
tocke prentyse

xxvj s. viij d.

payd them for the pleaye the same tym

xiiij s. iiij d.

...

f 15

...

payd the ix<sup>th</sup> of december to the quenes pleares by condecnt  
of the masters

XX S. 35

...

## 1597-8

*St Mary's Church Register* SRO: D/P/bw.m. 2/1/1

f [80]\* (*8 December*) (*Burials*)

...

Rober Moone a plaier slayne

...

## 1599–1600

*Accounts of Collectors for the Poor* SRO: D/B/bw 2287f [2]\* (*Payments*)

...

...for bakers sonnes apparrell [*deliuered* to] whoe was/ [who] *deliuered* to 5  
the plaiers v s....

...

## 1600–1

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1587f 5\* (*6 December 1600–11 December 1601*) (*Payments*)

...

Tyller & his companie a pley xiiij s. iiij d.  
smackerfyll & his companie xiiij s. iiij d.

...

15

f 7v\*

...

my lord of Herrefordes pleares xiiij s. iiij d.

...

20

## 1601–2

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1586f 5\* (*16 December–5 December*) (*Payments*)

...

The ij<sup>th</sup> of Aprell the lorde Sandiche pleares xiiij s. iiij d.

...

25

The [lorde] Eauers pleares the xxij<sup>th</sup> of maye xx s.

...

30

f 7

...

The vij<sup>th</sup> of Iuly to plears x s.

...

35

*Accounts of Collectors for the Poor* SRO: D/B/bw 2290f 6\* (*25 March–23 September*) (*Payments*)

...

payd to Edward Edwardes to teache blinde Hopkins to play on  
the harpe for his better mayntenance

...

x s. 40

## 1604-5

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1590

f 2v\* (2 January 1604/5-8 December 1605) (Payments)

...

The lorde barlys pleares

xx s. 5

...

*Accounts of Collectors for the Poor* SRO: D/B/bw 2294

f [6v] (Payments)

...

Paid to Iohn Carewe for the teachinge of vj poore Children  
to singe for a quarter ended at thannunciation 1605

xij<sup>l</sup> s.<sup>1</sup> [(.)]

10

...

<sup>o</sup>paid to Iohn Carew for the cause aforesaid for a quarter ended  
at midsomer anno Regni Regis Ia 3<sup>o</sup>

xij s.<sup>o</sup> 15

...

Paid to Iohn Carew xx<sup>o</sup> Septembris 1605 for the teachinge of  
vj poore children to singe for a quarter ended at Michaelmas  
next

xij s.

20

...

## 1605-6

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1591

f 4v\* (December-December) (Payments)

...

pleares the viij<sup>th</sup> of november by Iohn balle

x s.

25

...

*Accounts of Collectors for the Poor* SRO: D/D/bw 2295

f [6v] (Payments)

30

...

paid to Cary. for midsomer for teaching of Children to singe

x s.

...

<sup>o</sup>paid Cary for Cristmas and our Ladie dayes quarters for teachinge  
of Children to singe

x s.<sup>o</sup> 35

...

1606-7

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1592

f 4v\* (December-December) (Payments)

...  
The quenes pleares the xj<sup>th</sup> of Iun xiiij s. iiij d. 5  
...

f 5\*

...  
the pleares at our secones xiiij s. iiij d. 10  
...

1611-12

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1601

f 8a (13 December 1611-15 December 1612) (Payments) 15

... li. s. d.  
Item of xx s. payed to the Queenes players by master   
mayores order 01 00 00  
... 20

1615-16

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1606

f 7\* (2 October 1615-3 January 1615/16) (Payments) 25

...  
Item paid xx d. to Peter Tayler for a ring about the bullring   
& sprangs for the same 000 01 08  
...

1619-20

*Town Receivers' Accounts* SRO: D/B/bw 1608 30

f 17\* (16 September 1619-17 November 1620) (Payments)

... li. s. d.  
...  
Moor 5 s. to the Kings Tumpettors in ther prograce by Master   
Mayers owne hands is 00 05 00  
... 35

35/ Tumpettors: for Trumpettors

1639-40

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 331

f 46v (24 February)

...

Officiu[m] domini contra Henricum Pillchorne

10 Marcij

Denunciatur domino iudicanti That he daunced with his britches downe  
about his heeles in the house of one Iohn Chute de eadem, and did shew his  
privie members vnto the companie most vncivillie there being then many  
women present, and said he did daunce Piddecocke bolt vpright, and readie  
to fight: Ac quod desuper laborat publica vox, et fama./ Dyer testes sunt  
Ioanna Addams et eius filia./ Citetur./

...

## BRISLINGTON

1636

*Petition and Complaint of Oliver Chiver, Parson, to Archbishop Laud*

PRO: SP 16/322

single sheet\* (28 May)

To the most Reverend Father in God the Lord

Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace

The humble peticion of Oliver Chiver Clerke

Humbly sheweth.

That at the last Archiepiscopall visitacion, oath was administred & charge  
given vnto all Churchwardens and Sidemen to present all faults and crymes  
without partiality and according to the booke of Articles then delivered vnto  
them. And to that end the Churchwardens and sidemen of Brislington in the  
County of Sommersett had at least 6. weekes if not two months respite given  
them to bring in theire presentments. yet notwithstanding one Henry Dicke,  
Samuell Moggs the new intrusive Churchwardens Bartholomew Sheward,  
Anthony Sanders the true Churchwardens, Nicholas Cowling and Tobias Pope  
Sidemen or Assistants vnto them, did contrary to theire oath make many  
frivolous and false presentments against your poore petitioner & voluntarily  
neglected to present the notorious Crimes herevnto annexed, & many others  
not verified

His humble suite therefore is, that your Grace would be pleased soe to order  
that the said parties maie answeare the said contempts without charge vnto  
your petitioner being vtterly vnable to mayntayne suite for that the aforesaid

21-2/ To ... Grace: in italic script  
23/ of Oliver Chiver: in italic script

24/ Humbly sheweth: in italic script



parties and others detayne from him his iust dues, and put him to many vnnecessary expences.

And your petitioner (as bounden) shall pray &c

°I desire Sir Iohn Lambe and Dr Ducke to peruse this Peticion and the Paper annexed, and giue me an Accomt what is fittest to be done for the Iustice of the Cause and the Petitioners releife.

May. 28. William Cantuariensis°

1636

10

f [1]\*

A particuler of the neglects, voluntary and wilfull contemptes of the Churchwardens and other officers of Brislington in the County of Somersett, in not presentinge according to their oathes Complayned of by Oliver Chiver Clerke.

...

Item the sunday following Mr Civer demaunded of one Sheward to veiue his accomptes, which before the cheifest of the parish he denyed, saying that the Lord Bishop said [I] he was but an vnderling & hireling, & therefore had nothing to doe with any busines about the Church, other then to read prayer, And therefore he did respect him noe more then the meanest boy in the Bellfry, the same day one Maynard kept dancing & drinking in his house in tyme of divine service, & was not presented

Item that Cowling (though not at Church himselfe) together with Moggs the then reputed Churchwarden inhibited the young people their lawfull sport after evening prayer, although they were orderly, & had beene at prayer before, being whitsunday and Moggs sett the musitians by the heeles, yet they suffer vnlawfull gaming & tipling almost euery Sunday & present not any for the same.

30

...

1637/8

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 309

f 221\* (10 January)

35

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory before Thomas Wesley, MA, and*

18/ the sunday following: 18 May 1634, the Sunday after Ascension Day

18/ Civer: for Chiver

28/ whitsunday: 25 May 1634

*William Hunt, clerics, surrogate judges, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public*

Att this vprere  
there was a  
child killed by  
throwing a stone

*Contra Samuelem Mogg.*

Denunciatur domino Iudic<...> that vppon Saint [Mathias] <sup>^</sup>Mathe<...> d<...> 5  
[last] <sup>^</sup>1636:1 hee procured one to ride Skimmington in their parish, att the  
time of divine service both forenoone, & after noone, [& <...>] by meanes wherof  
manie of that parish, & other neighbour parishes weare absent from church,  
and hyred one of Bristoll to beate a drumbe att that time. *Wilhelmus Steevens*  
de eadem, Et Oliverus Mace, & Henricus Leonard [&] senior, & iunior 10  
Iustificabunt &c [V] [vt] vti ait dictus Steevens./.

23: Ianuarij

*Contra Iohannem Maynerd.*

*Pro eodem delicto./*

23: Ianuarij

*Contra Reginaldum (blank) famulum dicti Mogg.*

*Pro eodem delicto, & for beeing attyred in womans apparrell did ride behinde  
a Mopp made like a man, & beateing him with a basting ladle./.*

23: Ianuarij

*Contra Ricium (blank) famulum dicti Mogg.*

*Pro delicto predicto.*

23: Ianuarij

*citatio*

*Contra Iohannem Orchard*

*Pro eodem delicto./*

23: Ianuarij

*Contra Israelem Philpott.*

*Pro eodem delicto, & for carrying the ensinge, being an apron fastned to a  
longe staff.*

23: Ianuarij

*Contra Willelmum Daniell tipler.*

*Pro eodem delicto*

23: Ianuarij

...

## BROMPTON REGIS

1604/5

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 138

f 246v (7 January)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral* 40

*before Francis James, LLD, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

*Officium domini contra Georgium Creede*

Hee vseth to scoff and iest at harvest feastes & other tymes at <sup>the</sup>præchers  
of gods word, by counterfaiting of preaching, and in steed of a gowne hee  
putteth on twoe cloakes and in steed of a surpless hee weareth a womans  
flannin, or whittle & among [S] other places in the howses of Silvester Coggan  
of Exton, and of Ioane Sully of kings Brompton.

*Similiter etc./*

10

...

## BROOMFIELD

1633

15

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 66

p 277\* (28 May) (*Deposition of Henry Gould of Taunton, husbandman*)

*Taken before William Hunt in Wells in the presence of Matthew Peck, notary public*

...

20

...there is within the parishes of Broomefeeld & Tanton Magdalen aforesaid  
a comon fame & report that the detected Thomas Cornishe haue lived verie  
suspiciouslie of incontin(...) liffe with Ioane Cole of Broomefeeld and especiallie  
that on Broomefeelds las(.) fayer [daie <sup>in</sup>at the] eve at night (the said ffayer  
being alwaies kept on the feast <sup>or</sup>daie of All [Stes daie last past] <sup>Sowles</sup>  
yearelie<sup>1</sup>) he had the carnall knowledge of her bodie against the parsonage  
wall & was by diverse seene soe comitting the said crime of incontinencie  
togethers, and on the said ffeast daie at night he had the carnall knowledge  
of her bodie against the Sommer pole [in] which made a bell hanging on topp  
of the pole to ring out whereby he was alsoe discovered & by some seene...

30

...

## BURNETT

1619

35

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 209

f 232v\* (28 September)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral*

9/ Exton: 2 miles northwest of Brompton Regis

23/ incontin(...): edge of leaf crumbled

before Arthur Duck, LLD, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public

...

*contra* Iacobum Creese

145

Iuratus &c respondet et negavit famam etc quoad suspicionem incontinentie &c and [s]hee confesseth yat [s]hee was att a mearymente about a Maypole & was absent from evening prayer att his owne churche, but was at evening prayer att evening prayer, et *habet* ad agnoscendum eius delictum in ecclesia ibidem coram ministro, gardianis & 12. alijs parochianis ibidem die dominico proximo et ad certificandum &c in proximo et ad soluendum feodum eius

5 octobris

...

## BURNHAM

1574

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 15

ff 132v-3\* (19 October) (Deposition of John Barret, husbandman, aged 50)

...

Ad 2<sup>dum</sup> articulum dicit et deponit that this deponent duering the space of xiiij yeares [last past] hath sundrie tymes well known that the same Robarte Mydlam one the Sonndaies and hollidaies hath kepte beare baitinge reddens causam sciencie sue vt in primo articulo proximo precedenti et aliter nescit deponere

Ad 3<sup>tium</sup> articulum [(.)] dicit et deponit that one a Sonndaie happeninge aboute in sommer nowe laste paste before this his examination was a twelue moneth vt modo recolit tempus aliter perfecte non recordatur in the after noone of the same daie one which daie at afternoone I the same Robarte Mydlam had a Beare bayting at his house as this deponente very well remembreth And further this deponent saith that the same sonndaie in the aftre noone Mr [v] Carrant vyccar of Burneham preached in Burneham church wheareat wear present this Iurat Robarte midlam articulate and dyuers of the parissioners of Burneham And after sermon and servyce theare donn that afternoone ymmediatlie the same Robarte midlam standing vpp in his pewe in the church aforesaid before the whole companie then theare assembled with an angrie countenance and speech speaking vnto Mr Carrant aforesaide in the presence and hearing of hym this Iurate then standing in his pewe neare to Robarte Mydlams pewe aforesaide said theare had ben no sermon this after noone and if it had not ben to hynder my game meaning therby his beare baitinge Beinge ther in the said church [and hearing the premisses] dyuers of the parish But whether they harde the premisses or no this Iurate knoweth not And

further this Iurate saieth that the said afternoone dyuers of Burneham parishe wear absente frome sermon and gathered together about the stake wheare the Bear baytinge was and cam not the same sonndaie at the afre noone to churche at all which this Iurate beleueith they would haue donne if it had not ben for the same beare bayting Et *aliter* nescit deponere

f 136v (20 October) (*Deposition of Thomas Theyer, husbandman, aged 62*)

...  
Ad secundum et tertium articulos in vim iuramenti sui prestiti [sui prestiti] examinatus dicit et deponit That this deponent hathe known the said Robarte midlam manie & sundry times kepe beare baytinge in the parishe of Burnham & nameley one *acertaine* sonday in the afternoone happeninge about ayere & a halfe agon <sup>^</sup>[now last past] before this his examination [now last past] one which saied sonndaie at after noone Mr Carrant vycar of Burnham preached and made a sermon in the church of Burnham: But manie of the parissoners theare weare not at churche at the same Sermon but aboute the place whear the Beares weare baited which was in the Backsid of Robarte midlam [o] his dwellinge house sytuat in Burnham afore said And more this Iurate sayeth that assone as seruice was donne [M] Robarte Midlam speaking angerlie to Mr Carrant said openlie in the church of Burnham in the presence and hearing of this deponent and dyuers of the parissoners theare: If yt had not ben to hinder my game meaninge his beare baitinge theare had ben no sermon heare this afternoone vt dicit et *aliter* nescit deponere.

f 138 (*Deposition of John Hull, carpenter, aged 40*)

...  
Ad 2 et 3<sup>ti</sup>um articulos dicit that he this Iurat hath manie tymes knowen the same Robarte midlam articulate keepe beare baytinge in his Barton in the parishe of Burnham and namelie one a *certaine* sonndaie <sup>^</sup>[in the after noone] happininge aboute a yeare and a half a goe one which said sonndaie in the after noone Mr Carrant vycar of Burnham preached in the said parishe of Burnham and by meanes of the said Beare bayting manie of Burneham parishe weare absent from Sermon et *aliter* nescit deponere nisi ex relatione aliorum

f 147v (2 November) (*Deposition of Alice Musterde, aged 40, wife of James Musterde, day labourer*)

...  
Super secundo articulo examinata dicit et deponit that she hath well known that manie and sundrie tymes Robarte medlam articulate hathe mayntained and kepte beare bayting and bull baytinge befor his doore in the parisshe of Burneham one Sonndays and hollidaies in the after noone and after evening

praier *which* she hathe seen and doth well knowe by reason she is and hathe  
ben by the space of this xvj yeares laste past neare neighbor vnto the same  
Robert Medlam and dwelt harde by hym <sup>f</sup>in<sup>l</sup> the *parissh* of Burneham vt  
dicit et *aliter* nescit deponere/

...

ff 148v-9 (*Deposition of John Hannocke, husbandman, aged 39*)

...

*Super secundo articulo* dicit that he hathe manie tymes well knowen that one  
Sonndaies and hollidaies Robarte medlam articulate hathe had beares I at his  
hous in Burnham *parissh which* soundrie tymes he hathe caused to be baited  
before his doore but not at devyne service tyme one anie such daie as farre as  
this Iurat knowethe vt dicit et *aliter* nescit deponere

Ad 3<sup>tium</sup> nescit deponere But that Savinge that one a certaine <sup>^</sup>(*sonne*)<sup>l</sup> daie  
happeninge aboute a twelue monnethe agoe nowe laste paste before this his  
examination and in the after noone of the same daie vt modo recolit tempus  
*aliter* perfecte non recordatur One *which* said after noone mr Carrant vycar  
of Burneham preached in Burneham churche, and after his sermon donne,  
this Iurate then beinge in the same churche did heare and see amongst other  
angrie talke *which* then and theare passed betweene the said mr Carrant and  
Robarte medlam articulate but whereupon or vpon what occasion this Iurate  
knoweth not as he saiethe nor what the words weare this Iurate coulede not  
well vnderstande savinge these followenge viz. the said Robarte medlam  
speakinge vnto mr Carrant then and theare said angerlie I care not of *your*  
benifice, I will make yow spende *your* benefice if it weare better then it is  
if yow goe aboute to ouerthwart me *which* woordes weare vttered in the  
churche of Burneham in the *presence* and hearing of this Iurate and dyuers  
of the *parisshioners* of Burneham But whether Robarte medlam kept anie  
beare baytinge the same daie or no this Iurate knowethe not as he saiethe Et  
*aliter* nescit deponere/

...

f 164 (17 November) (*Deposition of Walter Tapscott, husbandman, aged 32*)

Ad secundum dicit that one manye sonndaies and holledaies within this ij  
yeares nowe last paste Robarte mydlam articulate hath had and mayntayned  
bear baytinge neare vnto his owen house in the parish of Burneham reddens  
inde *causam scientie* sue vt in *proximo precedenti articulo* et *aliter* nescit  
deponere

14/ But that Savinge that: *second phrase redundant*

15/ agoe: g *written over something else*

25/ it it: *distography*

26/ ouerthwart: h *written over something else, possibly oo*

Ad 3<sup>ium</sup> articulum dicit eundem esse verum ffor this Iurate as he sayeth was presente in the said church of Burneham one a certaine sonndaie in the after noone happeninge in somer [(.)] nowe laste paste before this his examination was a twelue monneth at what tyme [the] mr George Carrant articulate [parson] vycar of Burneham caused this Iurate then beinge pariss clerke to toll to a sermon and [mr] Robarte midlam then being likewise in Burneham church [in the presence and hearing of] beckined to this Iurate and byd hym leaue woorke and after this Iurate had donne toullinge the Bell, the saied Robarte Midlam tolde hym this Iurat then and theare in the saied churche of Burneham that he woulde course him this examine for tollinge so longe, and then master vycar of Burneham articulate asked the same Robarte Medlam what he mente to be so angrie: marie quoth the saied Robarte Medlam then and theare with angrie speache and countenance speakinge vnto mr Carrant [par] vycar of Burnham articulate in the presence and heeringe of [he] hym this examine and a greate manie of Burneham parisshe heare had ben no sermon to daie but of purpose to hinder My beare baytinge at home But yt maketh no matter I will make yow (meaning Sir [I] George Carrante articulate) spende one of your best benefices for yt One which saied sonndaie at after noone dueringe tyme of devyne service Robarte Midlam articulate had beare baytinge before his dore: ffor this Iurate then beinge in Burneham churche did easily heare the noise of the dogges [as] vt dicit et aliter nescit deponere

...

f 169v\* (1 December) (*Deposition of John Dodd of Berrow, husbandman, aged 50*)

...

Ad secundum et 3<sup>ium</sup> articulos dicit et deponit that this deponente hathe herde saie that Robarte mydlam articulat vsethe much one sonndaies and holiedaies to keepe beare bayting at his house in Burneham parisshe articulat but whether at seruice tyme or no this Iurate hath not herde nor can hee as he saith howebeyt this Iurate saith that one a sonndaie in the afternoone happeninge a aboute Corne harveste was twelue monneth nowe laste paste before this his examination vt modo recolit tempus et diem aliter perfecte non recordatur, this deponent was in Burneham churche at what tyme mr Carrante articulate preched in the same churche: And duering the sermon then and theare made this Iurate beinge theareat in the church aforesaied did heare the noys of the Beares and dogges fyghting togethers at midlams doore wheareat manie of the parisshe of Burneham leauinge and neglecting the sermon weare presente: ffor this Iurate ymediatlie after sermon was donne wente to the said beare bayting and sawe theareat manie of the parisshe of

Burneham *which* weare not the same afternoone in the churche at sermon vt  
dicit et *aliter* nescit deponere nisi de auditu aliorum

...

1634

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 70

f 10 (21 September) (*Examination of John Burrowe, late of Huntspill, groom*)

*Taken before Robert Cuffe, esquire, justice of the peace*

...

He sayeth That on Mooneday morninge last about seaven of the clocke [in  
the m] hee came into the house of Iohn Gould in Burnham & there sawe a  
Sitterne lyinge vppon a shelve in a roome next adioyninge to the [Ch] kitchinn  
of the *said* house Which Sitterne hee this *Examinat* did take & carry away vnto  
a place called the Wall & there did hide it <sup>in</sup> the hedge where it remaineth 15  
as yet for ought this *Examinat* knoweth (signed) Robert Cuff

...

(*Examination of John Gould*)

Who saieth That on Soneday last about sonne settinge he had a Sitterne  
hanginge in a lower chamber in his house & that the next morninge betweene  
the houres of Eight & Nyne of the clocke one Roger Cripps of Huntspill in  
the *said* County told this *Examine* that Iohn Burrowe his sonne in Lawe  
had a sitterne *which* as he thought was this *Examinates* & farther saieth That 25  
the saide Iohn Burrowe beinge there present with his ffather in Lawe confessed  
that hee tooke the Sitterne out of this *Examinates said* Chamber & carried it  
away (signed) Robert Cuff

...

(*Examination of Roger Cripps*)

Hee saieth that on Mooneday morninge Last hee hard Iohn Burrowe his  
sonne in lawe say, That hee had taken a sitterne out of the house of Iohn  
Gould of Burnham & farther he cannot say. (signed) Robert Cuff 35

11/ Mooneday morninge last: 15 September

21/ Soneday last: 14 September

33/ Mooneday morninge last: 15 September



## BUTCOMBE

1593/4

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 97

f [321]\* (22 January)

5

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Gilbert Boorne, LL.D, commissary, in the presence of Richard Roberts and John Vernon*

...

Officium domini contra Henricum Hixsley

10

for withdrawinge of the parishoners there from divine service beinge a fidler.

Quo die comparuit personaliter dictus hixsley [et non comparendo] Cui dominus obiecit detecionem qui Respondendo penitus denegavit Vnde dominus assignauit ei ad purgandum se quarta manu vicinorum suorum fidedignorum parochianorum ibidem in proximo habita interim proclamacione.

15

...

## CAMELEY

1616

20

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 25

f 32\* (August–September)

Thatt about three monethes past one Iohn Hall of Temple in the parishe of Camely in the county of Somerset, blacksmith being fallen out with Mary his wife vpon some speeches betwene them and one Ioane Sage her mother [they fell] and especially for that <sup>^</sup>the said Mary] <sup>^</sup>she<sup>1</sup> would <sup>^</sup>not<sup>1</sup> sett a Henn a broode (being [ ] as yt was reported xxx yeres old) & had noe meat to giue her, and therevpon she strok him vppon the back with a frying pann, and the sayde Smith being appointed to com to [sh] suyng to one Mr William Hobbes of the same parish the afternoone of the same day he sent word that he could not com to, saying for that his wife had stroken him with a frying pann vpon the back and therefore could not com there [f] for his wife had beaten him/

Wherevpon afterwarde the same being knowne abroad in the parishe some men there vpon a worken day vsually vsed for making merry as their Revill day there to mak some sport, had one to Ryde vpon mens shoulders by the name of Skymerton without any hurt don or misdemeanors otherwise at all. For which Mr Babor Iustice of peace bound ouer theis persons following to aunswere the same att this Sessions vizt. James Maggs Iohn Vokes Thomas Melkyns Walter Blynman & William Weichwell.

40

Sithence vpon another falling out betwene them she threatned him to criple him if she were able

1620

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 231

5

See High Littleton 1620

1629

*Compert Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 267

f [57]\* (8 September)

10

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Arthur Duck, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public and registrar*

15

...

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Morse seniore*

[excommunicatio  
28:]

*Similiter* presentatur that hee and his sonne being fidlers doe often absent them selves from their parishe Church on the Sabbothe dayes, & exerciseth their sayd profession elsewhere, on the Sabbothe day as they heare.

20

23: Septembris

Citetur./.

27: [8] Octobris

23<sup>o</sup> Septembris 1629 loco consistoriali &c coram domino doctore Duck Commissario predicto &c Quesitus fuit 20 Septembris 1629 per Saunders mandatarium &c super quo fidem fecit &c. Quo die dominus decrevit (*blank*) excommunicatio emanavit 4 novembris †

25

absolutio 27  
marcij 1630:

3: Novembris 1629: loco consistoriali &c coram magistro willelmo Hunt clerico &c surrogato &c Executa per eundem 28: Octobris vltimi ibidem &c super quo fidem fecit &c: Quo die facta preconizacione &c & non (*blank*) [25<sup>o</sup> martij: 1629: coram (*blank*) comparuit, & absolutus fuit &c, & &]

30

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Morse iuniorem*

excommunicatio

*Similiter* presentatur pro eodem delicto. Citetur./.

[8: Septembris] Octobris †

23: Septembris

23<sup>o</sup> Septembris 1629 loco Consistoriali &c coram dicto Commissario &c

27 Octobris

*Similiter* &c quoad certorium etc. Quo die dominus decrevit (*blank*)

35

excommunicatio. emanavit 4. novembris †

absolutio 27:  
martij 1630:

3: Novembris 1629: loco consistoriali &c coram magistro Willelmo Hunt clerico &c surrogato &c *Similiter* &c quoad certorium &c. Quo die *similiter*

## CASTLE CARY

1625

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 55f 26v\* (19 July) (*Charge laid by John Carye and other inhabitants of Castle Cary*) 5

To the Kings Maiesties Iustices of Peace  
at Taunton Sessions.

These ar therefor to certifie your worships That whereas one William Younge of  
Castle Cary in this County minstrel, vpon the xxvj<sup>th</sup> day of Iune last past beinge 10  
the Sabothe day neare aboute teen of the clocke in the night the said Younge,  
by his meanes & procurement had gotten together agreate companye of people,  
to disporte & make bade vse of the tyme so longe vntill that the said Younge  
did misvse some of the company not only in speeches but also in blowes, in  
so much that the company, made an outcrye for the Counstable, wherevpon 15  
notice beinge giuen to the counstable of the mutiny vprere brawelinge and  
fighteing the cunstable resorted vnto them and requiringe the Kings peace this  
Younge replied vnto him and sayd, thou Bowye althoughe thou art counstable  
yet thou art not fitt to be acounstable neither doe I care of thee neither of they  
authoritie with many more contemptious approbrius disgracefull & vnseemely 20  
speeches, in so much that the counstable did commaunde somme standinge  
in the rouse & streate to helpe assiste & ayde the counstable to apprehend  
the said younge & carry him to the stockes, seeinge that the said younge had  
drawen bloude of somme of the company, without any wronge vnto him  
offered, & vpon apprehension of the said Younge, hee still goeth one with bade 25  
termes against the Counstable, & to the vttermost of his power doth conteme  
the authoritie of the Counstable and his assistants, not only himselfe, but his  
mother Mary Younge also who did take the counstable by the throate and did  
pange scrache and raile at him to vnsemelye for any officer to be vsed soe  
disgracefully and vntowardly duringe all the tyme of his execution of Iustice... 30

...

## CATCOTT

1600/1

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 123

f 89\* (12 February)

35

*Proceedings of the court held in the parish church of Bridgwater before Francis  
James, LLD, vicar general, in the presence of William Leigh, notary public* 40

...

Officium domini contra Stephanum Baker

ffor bringing a somer pole into the church and rung a peale naming yt to be the somer poles Knell

Quo die comparuit dictus Baker qui fassus est that he with others brought a somerpowle into the church of Catcott may day last in the morning and did ring a peale but not to the profanacion of the temple namyng yt a Knell submittendo se &c. Vnde dominus meritis huius negotij consideratis presertim for that diverse of the inhabitant did testify and affirme that yt was a matter only of meriment solutis feodis cum stricta monicione ne dehinc taliter delinquat dimisit./

° dimissio °

10

Officium dominni contra Thomam Briges

Quo die similiter actum fuit in huiusmodi negotio in omnibus et per omnia prout in actu proximo precedenti contra Stephanum Baker:/

dimissio

15

Officium domini contra Iohannem Vphill

Quesitus fuit in hunc diem Quo die dominus decreuit cum citandum fore erga proximum personaliter si ita poterit apprehendi alioquin vijs et modis ad effectum quo prius

° 17<sup>o</sup> ff februarij °

...

20

1625

**Compert Book for Bishop's Peculiar** SRO: D/D/Ca 233

f [70v]\* (14 October)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Arthur Duck, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public*

25

...

Officium domini contra eundem Willelmum Trelognie 2<sup>o</sup>: loco

30

Similiter Presentatur: That hee kept ale and did sell itt all the last Sommer, and vppon the Sabbothe daie daie had minstrells, and daunceinge, and did dawnce a daunce called the cushion daunce by meanes wheareof hee gathered much companie to his house of younge men, and maydens which daunce they daunced in the Churchyard there vppon the Sabboth daye

35

21: Octobris 1625: loco consistoriali &c coram vicario generali &c comparuit, & iuratus &c, respondet, & negavit &c &c: Vnde dominus decrevit inquisitionem fieri &c ./.

31 Octobris

31<sup>o</sup>: Octobris 1625: loco consistoriali &c, coram vicario generali etc./ (blank)

## CHARD

## 1617-18

*Corporation Old Book* SRO: D/B/ch 11/1/1

f 44\* (6 December-5 December) (Receipts)

5

...

li. s. d.

...

Receyved for the vse of the hale of players. 18 d. & for  
the vse of the horslitter 6 d.

00 02 00 10

...

## 1618-19

*Corporation Old Book* SRO: D/B/ch 11/1/1

f 46 (6 December-5 December) (Receipts)

15

...

li. s. d.

...

Received of the plears ffor vsse of the hall

00 02 00

...

20

## 1619-20

*Corporation Old Book* SRO: D/B/ch 11/1/1

f 50 (6 December-5 December) (Payments)

25

...

li. s. d.

...

Item paid Iohn Burges the baylife for to geue the Kinges  
Trumpeters

00. 10. 00

...

30

*Wiltshire Quarter Sessions Examination* WRO: A1/110/1621 H

single sheet\* (19 October) (Examination of John Plumber of Chard, ballad singer)

*Taken before Sir Edmund Ludlowe and Sir Henry Ley, justices of the peace*

35

This examinat sayeth that he dwellethe in Charde aforesaid and vppon ffrydaye  
last he came from thence to wells that ffrydaye night and he laye at Bristoll  
on Saterdaye night and he lodged in Bath sundaye night and on mundaye  
night he lodged at Phellipps Norton and on Tuesdaie night he came hyther

40

And he sayeth that Esterdaye was senight coming from salesbury to goe  
 towards Charde he lodged at Sturton at the howsse of George Spender and  
 George Spender tooke this examinat a petticote and badd him goe and steale  
 a shepe and bringe him in [aforesaid] saying he loved a good fellowe and had  
 ben in Gaole many tymes himsellffe And this examinat tooke the petticote  
 and went with yt to Euercreach and there deliuered yt to goodwiffe Clarke  
<sup>A</sup> 'a wanderinge woeman' whose solde yt as her owne for fyve shillinges and six  
 pence and she payd the money to this examinat and they this examinat  
 goodwiffe Clarke and her daughter spent yt at euercreach at the Inn there/  
 (signed) Edmund Ludlowe 10

George Spender of Sturton  
 gyveth Evidence against  
 the said Plumber

## CHARLTON HORETHORNE

15

1615

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 21f 61\* (3 July) (*Examination of William Rodford*)

20

*Taken before Alexander Ewens, esquire, justice of the peace*

...

Who saith that the Sunday before the prosession weeke aboute twelue of the  
 Clock at night this examine and his ffather heard agreate noyse in the streete  
 at Charleton aforesaid, thinckinge [they] there had beene some stealinge the  
 May Poole, they wente to the doore and this examinates [going] ffather goinge  
<sup>A</sup> 'out' [of] ffirste was beaten in againe with stones. then this examine tooke a  
 peeke in his handes, and wente into the streete towards them, all the Companie  
 wente away (what they were this examine knoweth not) sauinge one William  
 Mallet of Charleton aforesaid, who fell vpon this examine tooke away his  
 peecke and beate him very sore... 30

## CHARLTON MUSGROVE

1585-6

35

*St Stephen's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/ch.mu. 4/1/1nf\* (*Expenses*)

...

Item to the musitians

xvj d.

...

40

1/ Esterdaye was senight: 11 October  
 2/ Sturton: Stourton, Wiltshire

23/ Sunday ... weeke: Rogation Sunday, 14 May  
 29/ not): closing parenthesis written over comma

&lt;.....&gt; ye musitions in earnest

&lt;...&gt;

...

## CHELVEY

5

1605

*Bill of Complaint in Gorges v. Davis* PRO: STAC 8/160/17 item [4]  
single mb\* (28 November)

...

... in or aboute the moneth of Ianuarie nowe last past one Edward Tynte of  
the Middle Temple London Esquier beinge then lawfullie seised in ffee of  
the Mannor & Lordeshippe of Chelvey & of the Advowson of the Church  
of Chelvey aforesaid, The said Hugh David *alias* Davis & Benedicke David  
*alias* Davis his sonne malitiously & wickedlie myndinge & intendinge to  
slaunder & disgrace the said Edward Tynte and to bringe his good name &  
fame in Contempte & hatred there amongst his *tenantes* & neighbors there  
They the said Hugh David *alias* Davis & Benedicke his said sonne did in or  
aboute the said moneth of Ianuarie frame & contrive vtter & publishe diuers  
verie vncivell libells Rymes & ligges of the said Edward Tynte, sayenge Tynte  
our galefaced Landlord walkes with his hornye hedd baylie, Hay brave velvett  
Ierkin <sup>1</sup>[with many other such like words, *which* the said Hugh David called  
by the name of Tyntes ligge] And the said Hugh David *alias* Davis diuers &  
sundrie tymes sythens the moneth of Ianuarie last in the presence of diuers  
gentlemen & credible persons did oftentimes procure Comaund and cause his  
said sonne Benedicke to singe the said lybells rymes & liggs, and did greatelie  
applaud & Comend his said sonne Benedicke for the well doinge thereof...

...

1605/6

*Interrogatories in Gorges v. Davis* PRO: STAC 8/160/17 item [2]  
single mb (3 February) (*Interrogatories posed to Hugh Davis, clerk, and John  
Tiler*)

...

- 1 Inprimis did not you frame contrive vtter and publishe certayne scandalous  
libells Rymes & ligges in Contempt and disgrace of Edward Tynte Esquier  
Callinge the same Tyntes ligge./
- 2 Item did not you procure Comaund and Cause your sonne Benedick Davis  
to frame contrive vtter and publishe certayne scandalous Rymes and libells  
and the same to repeate and recite in the presence of Divers gentlemen, and  
other credible persons, or did not your said sonne Benedick in your presence  
oftentimes repeate and recite such lybells Rymes and ligges soe framed and

composed by you, or by himselfe (...)nt and with your notice against the said Edward Tynte. And have not you comended (...) for the good deliuerie and vtterance thereof; And to your remembrance what were th(...) of the s(...) libells Rymes and liggess./.

...

- 5 Item did not you aboute the moneth of August last confesse vnto Sir Edward Gorge Knight and to the said Edward Tynte that your said sonne Benedick Davis had made certayne Rymes of the said Edward Tynte, which he and your self had called Tyntes liggess./.

...

*Examinations in Gorges u. Davis* PRO: STAC 8/160/17 item [1]  
ff 1-1v\* (8 February) (Deposition of Hugh Davis, cleric)

...

To the first Interrogatory hee sayeth that he this deponent dyd not frame 15  
contrive vtter or publish any scandalous libells Rymes & lygges in contempt  
or disgrace of Edward Tynte Esquier calling the same Tyntes lygg as in this  
Interrogatory is supposed.

To the 2. Interrogatory hee sayth that to his vttermost remembrance hee dyd  
nott procure comaunde or cause his sonne Benedict Davis to frame contrive 20  
vtter or publishe any scandalous Rymes and libelles and the same to repeate  
& recyte in the presence of dyuers gentlemen & other credible persons as in  
this Interrogatory is supposed But this deponent sayth that the said Benedycte  
his sonne dyd about twoe yeares nowe paste as then of about eleven yeares of  
age make & vtter extempore sytting at the deponents table sondrye [chldes] 25  
childish idle english Rymes concerning the said mr Tynt & dyd vtter the same  
in the presence and hearing of this deponent & [(.)] of such as <sup>^</sup>[then] satt at  
the table with him but what thee wordes of the same Rymes were this deponent  
hath nowe forgotten. And this deponent sayth that he [was so farre from  
comending of the said Benedict dyd not comend but] <sup>^</sup>[this deponent] dyd 30  
correcte & not comende the said Benedict his sonne for making & recyting  
the said Rymes And after that tyme the said Benedycte this deponents said  
sonne dyd nott [vtter or] make or l [vtter] <sup>^</sup>[vtter] anye <sup>^</sup>[more] Rymes or  
libells <sup>^</sup>[to the knowledge of this deponent] and what the wordes or effect of  
the <sup>^</sup>[aforesaid] [same] Rymes were this deponent doth not [knowe] nowe 35  
remembreth

...

To the vth Interrogatory he sayth that about the month of August laste past he  
this deponent dyd in talk with Sir Edward Gorge Knight confesse vnto him

1/ (...): 40mm of text illegible

2/ (...): 45mm of text illegible

3/ th(...): 20mm of text illegible

36/ remembreth: for remembre



that this deponentes said sonne Benedycte Davys had extempore made & [pronounced] pronounced <sup>Λ</sup>at this deponentes table<sup>1</sup> certen Rymes <sup>Λ</sup>or ligges<sup>1</sup> of the said Edward Tynte. And more he remembreth not to this Interrogatory

## CHEW MAGNA

5

1593

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 97

f [257v]\* (9 October)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory of the parish church at Bridgwater before Gilbert Boorne, LL.D, official principal, in the presence of Robert Owen, notary public*

10

...

Officium domini contra Iohannem Hixe

15

presentatur that he hath not yet made his Accompte beinge church warden aboute vj or vij yeares synce  
(blank)

Officium domini contra Iohannem Hyx

20

presentatur that he Commeth not to the church as he ought to doe And that he keepeth bull baytinge one the Sabaoth Day  
(blank)

...

ff [293-3v]\* (23 November)

25

*Proceedings of the court held before Gilbert Boorne, LL.D, vicar general, in his home in the town of Bridgwater in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

Officium domini contra Iohannem Hix

30

Notatur that hee hath not yet made his accompte beinge churchwarden about a vj or vij yeares agon. & that hee cometh not to churche as hee oughte to doe, and that hee kepeth bulbaytinge on the saboath daye

Remanet excommunicatus in non comparendo &c &c Quibus die et loco comparuit personaliter dictus Hix, et humiliter petijt beneficium absolucionis a sententia excommunicacionis aliter contra eum lata sibi impendendi/ Ad cuius petitionem dominus eum absolvit &c et restituit &c prius prestito per eum

35

20/ Hix: y corrected from i

22/ one: e corrected from t

35/ &amp;c &amp;c: ditigraphy

iuramento de *parendo iuri* et stando *mandatis ecclesie* &c deinde *dominus* obiecit ei *presentationem* qui eidem *respondendo* fassus est eandem *esse veram*, And hee sayeth that hee intendeth to passe his accompte vnto the said parishe verie shortelie and that hee came not to his parishe church for feare of arestinge, and that he kepthe bullbaytinge on the saboath daye but once and that after eueninge prayer I submittendo se &c vnde *dominus* quoad duas partes postere *presentationis* *predicte* monuit eum that from henceforthe hee vse his parishe church as hee oughte to doe and that he kepe noe more bulbaytinge on the Saboath daye, et sic quoad illas <sup>^</sup> duas partes *presentationis* *dominus* eum dimisit ab officio et deinde *dominus* monuit eum that hee satisfye the parishners of Chewe of his accompte, and whereas hee confesseth L. s. due to them vppon his accompte, that he paye the one half theareof vnto them by the ffeaste of the Annuntiation of oure ladye nexte cominge, et ad *certificandum proximo* die iuridico post/ And that he paye the other half theareof vnto them at or before the ffeaste of St Michaell tharchaungell nexte cominge et ad *certificandum proximo* die iuridico post./

...

## CHEWTON MENDIP

1555

*Compert Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 25

p 66\*

...

Item that william mullens doth kepe bull bayting at the tyme of diuine service/ who hath ben dyverse tymes required by the wardeans to leave it

...

1607/8

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 16

f 61\* (13 January)

*Jury presentment for Chewton hundred at Wells sessions*

...

Memorandum that Iames Muggleston of Chewton in the County aforesaid Inholder [did] about <sup>^</sup> the last (..) Iuly last past keepe Bull bayting and beare bayting at Chewton aforesaid.

...

## CHILTON TRINITY

1608

**Quarter Sessions Indictments** SRO: Q/SI 16

f 64\* (21 September)

5

*Jury presentment for Andersfield hundred at Bridgwater sessions*

...

And that Roberte Sommer of Chilton did keepe Bullbeatinge and sold Ale the  
xx<sup>th</sup> of Iune last past

10

## CLOFORD

1606

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 146

f 41v (29 April)

15

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral  
before Anthony Methwyn, MA, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward  
Huishe, notary public*

20

...

*Officium domini contra Richardum Holway*

Notatur yat hee being of late one of the churche wardens theare kepte an ale,  
and kepte dauncing, bousing, tipling, bowling, keeles & suche like on the  
sabaoth day tempore divinorum, And for making one william Langly drunck  
att one walter dollins ale tempore divinorum. and hee is suspected by his  
wief to liue incontinently with diuers other woemen, and leaveth his wieves  
companye diuers nightes togeathers following ye companie of other woemen:  
Gorway

Citetur in proximum.

30

...

## COMPTON BISHOP

1634

**Archbishop's Visitation Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 297

f [11v]\* (c September)

35

*Officium domini contra Petrum Graie.*

Presentatur per gardianos, et Inquisitores *ibidem* that there is a fame that hee  
hath most slaunderouslie defamed marie Browne the wife of Iohn Browne

40

po:  
2: s. 1: d.  
Primo loco./  
1: Octobris

excommunicatio  
enunavit 15:  
Octobris 1634

and the daughter of Mr Thomas Cowdry our minister in reportinge to marie white wife of Thomas white (Shee demaunding of him on St Thomas daie the xxj<sup>th</sup> of December 1633: where hee left her husband hee answered that hee had left him occupyinge of Marie Browne, and also other wordes hee spoke to the like effect verie vnfit to bee named, and there is a fame alsoe that hee the said Peter Graie hath otherwise behaued himselfe vnseemlie in the presence of his neighbairs, and others that haue taken offence at the same in the Inn at Crosse by putting off his cloathes and dauncinge in his shirte on Shrove sondaie last, and vsed verie vnseemlie gesture in his said dauncinge before diuers people that were ashamed thereof.

...  
Quo die comparuit, & obiecto presentamento &c, respondet, & negavit &c: vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad purgandum se quinta manu vicinorum suorum fidedignorum &c: habita proclamacione &c./ deinde fassus est presentamentum primo loco factum &c vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad agnoscendum eius culpam coram toto cetu, post lectionem evangelij vestibus consuets &c, & ad certificandum &c 1: loco, & ad purgandum se 2: loco vt supra &c [quarta manu] quinta manu &c:  
decimo Octobris 1634: facta preconizacione dicto Graie, et non comparente &c./

## COMPTON MARTIN

1607/8

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 16  
f 61 (13 January)

*Jury presentment for Chewton hundred at Wells sessions*

...  
And farther Wee present that Iames Covent of Compton Martin solde Alle and kept [Alle] Bulbaytinge there, [about A(.)] in August last past without lycence to our knowledge./

8/ Crosse: a hamlet 1 mile east of Compton Bishop  
9/ Shrove sondaie last: 16 February 1633/4  
13/ quinta: corrected over quarta

## COMPTON PAUNCEFOOT

1605

*Bill of Complaint in Adams v. Gilbert et al* PRO: STAC 8/43/3  
single mb\* (26 November)

...  
 ...And in like manner afterwarde in or about the fifteenth day of October  
 in the said yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred and three the said  
 Maurice Gilbert did cause one William Hacker of Marston in the said County  
 of Somerset to enter into recognizance bfore him for his appearance at the  
 next generall sessions of the peace to bee holden for the said county of Somerset 10  
 & neuer certified the said recognizance at the said sessions but vtterly  
 suppressed the same & for rewardes vnlawfull fees or some private & vndue  
 respectes dischargd the said Hacker payinge therefore to the said Iones  
 seven shillings six pence which was soe paid to the vse or for the behouf of  
 the said Maurice Gilbert or by his commandement direccion or privity and 15  
 encouragement, And in like manner (that is to say in or about the moneth  
 of february in the said yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred & three  
 the said Maurice Gilbert beinge Iustice of the peace as aforesaid did by the  
 practise & procurement of the said Iones or of his owne head imaginacion  
 & practise constrainye vrge or compell one Henry Bull of Cadbury in the 20  
 county aforesaid Iohn Gifford & Iohn Clarke of Sparkford in the county  
 aforesaid yeomen to enter into three seuerall recognizances to your Maiestes  
 vse taken Before himself alone to appeare at the next generall sessions to bee  
 holden for the said county of Somerset to answere to a supposed misdemeanor  
 for playeing Christmas sportes in a beares skinne at the house of one Edward 25  
 Keynes esquier without any acte or intention of evill and for the same  
 recognizances did extortiouslie exact of every of the said three persons two  
 shillings six pence a peece or there aboutes which was paid either to himself  
 or to the said Iones By his commandment or direction or with his privity or  
 abettment, but then havinge taken the said recognizances and made benefitt 30  
 in takeinge fees for the same he the said Maurice Gilbert neuer certified the  
 said recognizances nor any of them at the said next sessions nor at any other  
 sessions as by the lawes of this your highnes realme he ought to haue done,  
 but vtterly suppressed & secreted the same in deceit of your highnes ... And  
 further your said subiect humblie informeth your most excellent Maiestie that 35  
 the said Maurice Gilbert Henry Gilbert Henry Iones Andrew Southhay or  
 some or one of them and other their complices seekinge to defame and slander  
 many of your Maieties lovinge subiectes & to lay reprochfull <sup>^</sup>(slaunder &  
 imputacions vppon them <sup>^</sup>(by discriptions & circumlocutions)<sup>1</sup> beinge for  
 the most parte men of good account in their County & to raise debate & 40

171 three: closing parenthesis omitted in MS

dissention amonge themselves or betweene them & others doe <sup>^</sup>dayly<sup>1</sup> devise  
 contrive make spread & publish most vntrue slanderous and infamous libells  
<sup>^</sup>in wrytyng<sup>1</sup> against them <sup>^</sup>by discriptions & circumlocutions as aforesaid.<sup>1</sup>  
 & cause the same by Rymers & other idle and evill disposed persons to bee  
 sunge read & repeated in alehouses & other base places whereby to bringe  
 their names to bee the more odious & contemptible, & for that purpose and  
 to bringe disgrace & infamy to one Henry Meere an auncient vltar barrester  
 professor of the common lawes & one that is well esteemed, & accounted of  
 in his contry and to draw preiudice to his practise of the law beinge his cheif  
 maintenance they the said Maurice Gilbert Henry Gilbert Henry Iones  
 Andrew Southhay or some of them by the said Maurice Gilbertes [conset]  
<sup>^</sup>consent<sup>1</sup> privy or procurement did about the feast of the nativity of our  
 Savior Christ last past devise make & publish in writinge a lewd & slanderous  
 libell against the said Henry Meere part whereof followeth in these wordes  
 Linox the Lawier they say is growne passinge poore, hath built a new house  
 which threateneth to run from him, search (...)ram bagg noe knavery in store,  
 what a counsellor to then hange him Linox your face is rechly beset with  
 pearles, I would yt were, I wish it for your girles. which slanderous libell  
 your said subiect doeth averr to be libellously intended made, sett fourth &  
 published to the scandall & reproch of the said Meere professor of the lawes,  
 and moreover as at the feast of the nativity of our Savior Christ last past the  
 said Maurice Gilbert Henry Gilbert Henry Iones <sup>^</sup>and<sup>1</sup> Andrew Southay or  
 some of them by the privy & consent of the said Maurice did vnlawfullie  
 & slanderously in writinge devise frame publish & spread abroad another  
 false lewd slanderous & reprochfull libell against Sir ffrancis Hastings Knight  
 then a lustice of the peace within the said county of Somerset a man honorable  
 discended & one living in great account in the said country terminge him in  
 and by the said libell smooth tongued Turtullus a part of which libell followeth  
 in these wordes. smooth tongued Turtullus nobly carrieth himself in deth  
 walketh & talketh accompanied with great preachers, how can he erre  
 accompanied with such teachers, yet he iugles, cutts, breakes & shuffles, marry  
 his zeale is knowne, tis for poore need, & not for pure devotion, which  
 slanderous libell your said subiect doeth also averr to be done contrived &  
 published as foresaid of the said Sir ffrancis by the name of Turtullus at or  
 about the said feast of the nativity of our Savior last past the said Maurice  
 Gilbert Henry Gilbert Henry Iones <sup>^</sup>and<sup>1</sup> Andrew Southay or some of them  
 by the privy & consent of the said Maurice did ... spread abroad an other  
 false lewd & infamous libell against Richard Rogers & his wyfe whose wives  
 surname by birth was St Albons & against his owne vncler lames Keynes  
 gentleman terminge him Atheist Blinco, & against his own brother George  
 Gilbert callinge him Tarquinius, parte wherof followeth in theise wordes, In  
 Tarquinium, Atheist Blinco fraught with treachery, perswades Tarquin to

papistry, & now to St Albons directly goes vppon his knees downe he falles  
 & ther out his spirite paules ... about the feast of our saviour Christ last past  
 did likewise malciouslie devise frame publish & spread abroad another false  
 & infamous libell against one Thomas Knoyle *esquier* a gentleman of great  
 woorth & in good place about your Maientie and ... against one Robert 5  
 Sibthorpe of North Cadbury aforesaid a minister & preacher which libell is  
 ridiculous & vnfitt for chast eares to heare & vnfitt to be inserted in any bill  
 in this honorable court, terminge him thereby amongst other thinges Cayphas,  
 & ... against one Alexander Yewens *esquier* then & now one of your highnes  
<sup>A</sup> Justices of peace of the said county of Somerset part whereof followeth in 10  
 theis wordes, Alexander the great at thee I doe much wonder, that havinge  
 brought the white toothed blackmoore vnder, subvert it not for brave actes  
 fourth will thunder slanderouslie & falsly meaninge that the said Alexander  
 hadd gott a blackmor which was in his house with child, and ... against  
 Mathew Yewens sonne of the said Alexander yewens part wherof followeth 15  
 in theis wordes, Hollus I heare bragges much of his pedigree, since he first  
 was linckt to nobility, nay by St Mathew now you idle prate was not your  
 grandsire porter to the gate and ... against Mistris (*blank*) Gilbert mother to  
 the said Maurice Gilbert & Henry Gilbert, part whereof followeth in these 20  
 wordes. Old mother wise borne by nature crafty, to color this putes on the  
 holy hood, successively has children are so naughty, that yeeven herself doeth  
 hate the very brood, will you please her, her children then defame, call them  
 monsters shipfroath full of all evils, or whatsoeuer may turne to their disgrace  
 & shame, spare not it likes her, call them very devills, if the branches  
 springinge from your bloud (...)sa, be you so bad, is the tree then good ... 25  
 besides many other like slanderous & infamous libells contrived made &  
 published within the space of two yeares now last past...

...

## CONGRESBURY

30

1608

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 156A

ff 307v-8\* (25 October)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before  
 Anthony Methwyn, MA, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe,  
 notary public and registrar*

35

...

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Baale*

*Similiter presentatur* that hee is a drunkerd, And that all the summer time hee

40

31 octobris

(being a fidler,) commeth litle to the churche, and withdraweth much people from the churche by his fidling.

Similiter etc quoad certorium etc. Quo die similiter (blank)

Officium domini contra Iohannem Hort de Brinsey

Similiter presentatur that hee hee is verie often drunck a seldome commer to the churche, and on the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> day of september last being the sabbaoth day hee was not onlie bedlam drunck drawing out his knief against the companie, but also was so beastlie drunck that chast eares abhors to heere the report of his damnable behavioure.

Citatus fuit eodem die per eundem mandatarium &c./ Quo die (blank)

Officium domini contra Iohannem Luckock.

excommunicacio

Similiter presentatur that on the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> of September last hee being a bowcher made a bed ale, and having twoe fidlers att his howse all that day, kept playing & daunsing all evening prayer time

Citatus fuit eodem die per eundem mandatarium etc. Quo die (blank)

...

1636/7

Quarter Sessions Roll SRO: Q/SR 76, pt 2

f 119\* (15 January) (Examination of Francis Buscell of Yatton, husbandman, aged 22)

Taken before Gerard Wood, DD, and William Walrond, justices of the peace

...

...sayth that he hath <sup>^</sup>[knowne] Mary Butcher about xij yeares, and that she is his Cozen german, hee knew her when she lived at home at Huntspill with her Mother. And when she lived with William Hort in the Parish of Congersbury, who lived there for the space of Three yeares or thereabouts, And about Michalmas last was two yeares, hee saw the said Mary Butcher, and a young man together in an Alehouse in the said Parish of Congersbury, drinckinge, kisseinge and very famelier together, wherevppon this Examinat asked of the said Mary Butcher who that young man <sup>^</sup>[was,] she told him, that hee was a sweett hart of hers, and a sutor to her, and his name was William Andrews who dwelt with the widdow Iones, nere her Master william Hort[s] his howse with whom she then dwelt...

f 119v

...And further this Examinat sayth, that he hard the said William Hort and



his wife and diuers others in the said Parish of Congersbury to say, that the said Androwes and Mary Butcher weare Lord and Lady together in May...

...

## CREWKERNE

5

c 1596

*Quarter Sessions Order Book* SRO: Q/SO 1(4)

p 6\* (*Persons ordered to appear at Bridgwater general sessions*)

...

37 Thomas <sup>[Iohannes G]</sup> Gregorie for keepinge of Bulbeatinge & beare beatinge with other outrageous Rule att Crewkerne

...

10

15

1600

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 117

f 302\* (15 July)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general*

20

...

Gracia Maysters filia Iohannis Maysters impregnata est per [Iohannem] <sup>[Georgium]</sup> Hooper de Crewkern.

citetur mulier et pater eius et citetur Hooper in *proximum*.

25

the man is cunstable of the parish, she did to goe to Crewkern to learn [of] to play vppon the virginalls wheare the said Hooper was verie familiar. It is said her father conveyd her a way [of]

Citatus fuit xij<sup>o</sup> Iulij per Barnard etc. Quo die facta preconizazione pro dicto Georgio Hooper et non comparente dominus pronuntiauit eum contumacem etc. pena reservata in *proximum*

30

...

1635–6

*Grammar School Wardens' Accounts* SRO: DD/CGS 3/1

35

f [74] (25 December–25 December) (*Payments*)

...

paid vnto Thomas ffisher for keepinge the boyes in order the Cockfightinge day

vj d.

...

40

1637-8

*St Bartholomew's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/crew 4/1/1  
f [47]\* (*Church rents*)

...

Item receiued of the players for the Church howse 2 s 0 s

...

1638-9

*St Bartholomew's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/crew 4/1/1  
f [52] (*Church rents*)

...

l. s. d.

...

Receiued of Players for the vse of the Church house 0 4 0

...

10

15

## CROSCOMBE

1475-6

AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts* 20  
p 3\* (*January-January*)

...

Comes John Joyce and William Branch, and brings in of the  
King's revel

&lt;...&gt;

...

25

1476-7

AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 4 (*January 1475/6-11 January 1476/7*)

...

Comes Thomas Blower and John Hille and presents in xl s. of Roben Hod's  
recones

30

...

1477-8

AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 5 (*11 January 1476/7-31 January 1477/8*)

...

Comes William Coggan and presents in of the Kyng's revell xx s.

...

40

23/ William Branch: *churchwarden 1479-1500*31/ John Hille: *churchwarden 1476-9*

24/ &lt;...&gt;: sum lost because edges of sheet torn, according to Hobhouse

## 1478–9

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 7 (31 January 1477/8–1 March 1478/9)

...

Comes Harper and presents of the Kyng's revell of thes yere past xiiij s. j d. 5  
whereof was stole away ij s. vij d. So remaynes cler x s. vij d.

...

## 1481–2

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts* 10  
p 9 (13 January–12 January)

...

Comes John Halse and Roger Morris for Roben Hod's revel,  
presents in xl s. iv d.

...

15

p 10

...

Rest remaynes in the box of cherche money xxxv s. iv d.  
and xxij s. iv d. and more xl s. iv d. Roben Hode money, 20  
Summa al v l. ij s. vij d.

## 1482–3

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 10 (12 January 1481/2–25 January 1482/3) 25

...

Comys Robin Hode and presents in xxxiiij s. iv d.

## 1483–4

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts* 30  
p 11 (25 January–17 January)

...

Richard Willes was Roben Hode, and presents in for yere past xxiiij s.

...

5/ Harper: *John Harper, churchwarden 1476–81, possibly also sexton*

13/ John Halse: *churchwarden 1484–5*

13/ Roger Morris: *churchwarden 1481–2*

33/ Richard Willes: *perhaps identical with Richard 'Vowlys,' churchwarden 1487–8*

p 12\*

...

Branch hath of the wyfes dansyng in his hands

vj s.

...

1484-5

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 12 (17 January-8 January)

...

Comys Robyn Hode and presents in

xxiiij s. viij d. 10

...

1486-7

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 14 (14 January 1485/6-20 January 1486/7)

...

Comys Robyn Hode, Wyllyam Wyndylsor, and presents  
in for the yere paste

iiij l. vj s. viij d. ob.

...

1488-9

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 16 (12 January 1487/8-19 January 1488/9)

...

Comys Robyn Hode and presents in

iiij l. vij s. viij d. 25

...

1490-1

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 18 (16 January-15 January)

...

Comys Robyn Hode and presentith

l s. 30

...

1494-5

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 20 (11 January-10 January)

...

Robyn Hode presents in

xlvj s. viij d. 35

...

## 1500-1

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 24 (13 January 1499/1500-16 January 1500/1)

...

Comyth in Robyn Hode and Lytyll John and presentyth in xv s. 5

...

## 1502-3

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 26 (8 January 1501/2-14 January 1502/3) 10

...

Comyth Robart Hode and presentyth in xl s.

...

## 1504-5

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 27 (13 January-12 January) 15

...

...Presentyd in of the Kyng revyll xxiiij s. x d. ob.  
that restys yn Master Mawdley ys hondys. 20

...

## 1505-6

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 28\* (12 January 1504/5-January 1505/6) 25

...

Presented in of the sport of Robart Hode and hys company liij s. iiij d.  
the wych resteth in the hands of William Carter  
in the hands of W. Dunpayn to by ches vj s. viij d.

...

30

## 1506-7

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 28\* (January-January)

...

Presented in for the sporte of Robart Hode xliij s. iiij d. 35

...

19/ the Kyng revyll: Hobhouse adds 'ie, the King's Revel'

28/ William Carter: churchwarden 1513-14

29/ W. Dunpayn: perhaps son of John Dunpayn, churchwarden 1498-9

## 1507-8

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts*  
p 29 (January 1506/7-13 January 1507/8)

...

The wardens present for the sport of Robart Hode ix s. viij d. 5  
In the hands of Donpayn to by chese vj s. viij d.

...

## 1509-10

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts* 10  
p 30\* (14 January-12 January)

...

The comyng in of Robyn Hode iij l.

## 1510-11

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts* 15  
p 31 (12 January-11 January)

...

Comyng in of Robyn Hode iij l. vj s. viij d.  
To J. Donpayne for by chesse vj s. viij d. 20

...

## 1511-12

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts* 25  
p 31\* (11 January 1510/11-17 January 1511/12)

...

Item the Croke box iij l. ix s. j d.  
" " Robyn Hode xxxv s. x d.

...

## 1526-7

- AC *St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* Hobhouse: *Church-Wardens' Accounts* 30  
p 38 (21 January-19 January)

...

Gifts. Sir Jon Rodneye. iij s. iiij d. 35

...

" Robyn Hode iiij l. iiij d.

...

13/ Robyn Hode: *Hobhouse adds* '(John Honythorne)'; *Honythorne was churchwarden 1521-2*

20/ for: *fôrto*(?)

28/ Robyn Hode: *Hobhouse adds* '(J. Honythorn and J. Stevyn)'; *John Stevens was churchwarden in 36 Henry VIII (ie. 1544-5?)*

1586/7

*Chapter Act Book H* WCL

f 40\* (18 February)

*Proceedings in the chapter house of Wells Cathedral by James Bisse, subdean, 5*  
*presiding in the dean's absence; Philip Bisse, STD, archdeacon of Taunton; and*  
*William Jones, LLD, canons residentiary, acting for the chapter in the presence of*  
*John Dane, notary public and clerk of the chapter*

...

Officium dominorum contra Willimum Gale.

10

...

Quibus die Anno et loco venerabiles viri *predicti* obiecerunt prefato Willimo  
 Gale *presenti* in iudicio Quod non obstante monitione ei *alibi* iudicialiter  
 facta v<sup>z</sup> That hee shoulde from thenceforth better behaue himself in his  
 Demeanor in amendemente of his lose and lycentious lif, Nihilominus 15  
*prefatus* Gale did openlie in disguised order in the companie of others goe in  
 a maske with a visarde vppon his face into the *parishe* of Pillton, and from  
 thence to Croscombe to the evill example of others serving in the same  
 churche. Quam quidem obiectionem dictus Gale fassus est esse veram et  
 submitit se correctioni *dominorum* &c vnde *domini* iniunxerunt ei *penitentiam* 20  
*sequentem* v<sup>z</sup> That hee shoulde goe *presentie* in the Canon Barne, and theare  
 continewe in fastinge and prayer vntill hee weare by the Deane and Chapter  
 againe remitted. And then v<sup>z</sup> primo die Aprilis *proximi* hee shall *comme* into  
 the Chapter howse and openlie vppon his knees confesse his faulte before the  
 Chapter & aske them forgiuenes, And soe the nexte Sundaie then followinge 25  
 openlie in the quier make his repayer to euerye of the masters *seuerallie* and  
 craue forgiuenes at theire *handes*. And afterwarde hee shall goe to euerye of  
 the vicars chorall and Clarkes of the same cathedrall churche in the quier at  
 seruice time, and will them all to take example by him./

...

30

1600/1

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 123

f 95\* (17 February)

*Proceedings of the court held before Francis James, LLD, vicar general, in the presence 35*  
*of William Leigh, notary public*

...

Officium domini contra Nicholaum Tither

ffor dauncing vppon a sonday at Evening prayer time

40

Decretum fuit dictum Nicholaum Tither citandum fore erga hunc diem./

Quo die introducto mandato et facta fide super executione eiusdem factaque

° dimissio °

preconizazione pro dicto Nicholao Tither comparuit cui dominus obiecit detectionem qui in vim iuramenti eidem respondendo penitus negauit detectionem prout obijcitur esse veram, fassus est vero that was a behoulder of others that did daunce, which for their disordered abuse haue ben conuented before Master Doctor Bisse as official to the deane But for his owne parte he answereth as before: et obtulit se promptum et paratum ad prestandum iuramentum corporale ad sancta dei Evangelia de et super veritate sue huiusmodi assertionis./ vnde legitimis meritis huiusmodi negotij consideratis decreuit dictum Tither dimittendum fore et sic dimisit cum monitione ne dehinc taliter delinquat./

...

1607/8

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 154  
ff 324, 326, 323v\* (11 January)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

*Officium domini contra Edmundum ffleete*

Citatus fuit vltimo decembris vltimi per Thomam Seevyer etc. Quo die comparuit personaliter dictus ffleete quem dominus iuramento oneravit &c de fideliter respondendo etc ac monuit &c./ qui in vim iuramenti sui examinatus respondet et fassus est that on the saturday nexte before Christemas Day now last before this his examinacion this respondent and Iohn Goodall of Corsecombe having bin both at Bathe and comming home att night and being in the said Gooddalls howse found certaine straungers; togeather with George Bisse & William Tither att cardes, wheare this examine contineued from about 8 of the clock in the evening vntill midnight or afterwards. verte ad folium 326 huius libri ad hanc metam + l + And then they wanting one to play att cards with them this examine made one. And sayth yat about one or twoe of the clock in the morning one Thomas Humfry dwelling att Strotton sitting in the chimnie corner on sleepe the said George Bisse said I will awake Thomas Humfrye that hee may make vs some sport and begg againe as hee did this night, and so awooke him, and willed him to begg for his pennance, the said Humfries made awnswer saying I cannot heere is neuer a doctor, why quod the said Bisse heere is Jelllycombe lett him bee doctor, the said Jelllycombe said I will not bee doctor vnlesse you will giue mee a dubble

3/ was: for he was  
7/ sue: 3 minimi in MS

25-6/ the saturday ... examinacion: 19 December 1607  
30-1/ verte ... metam: 'Turn to folio 326 of this book at this mark'



Jugg of ale, well said George Bisse heere is companie enough lett ffleet bee the register meaning this iurate, this *examine* sitting still and saying nothing saving then thow shalt bee apparitor speaking to the said [parishe] George Bisse, and see thow take no bribes, for yf thow doest, wee will runn thy arse thrise against the wall. And thearevpon the said Humfries took a linnen cloth and putt it about his shoulders and comming to the said Iellycombe with a counterfayted sower countenance begged of the said Iellycombe saying I pray you good *master* doctor bee good to mee, in my pennaunce, my father is a good liver and hath a pretty living, and this is the knave whiche hath brought mee with childe, laying his hand vpon the arme of Iames dolton a youth  
 ^ [sitting or standing] theareby. the said william Tither being then present with them and laughing theareat. *submittendo* se &c. vnde *dominus* monuit eum ad *comparendum* in *proximo* secundo ad *audiendum* voluntatem *domini* &c./

*Officium domini contra* Richard Iellycombe

*Quesitus* fuit eodem die *per* eundem *mandatarium* etc. Quo die *dominus* decreuit eundem citandum fore vijs et modis etc in *proximum*./

*Officium domini contra* Iohannem Goodall.

*Citatus* fuit eodem die *per* eundem *mandatarium* etc. Quo die *comparuit* personally dictus Goodall quem *dominus* iuramento onerauit &c de fideliter *respondendo* etc ac monuit etc. qui in vim iuramenti sui *examinatus* *respondet* et negat that euer hee hearde anie suche words spoken by any of the parties named in this deteccion [named] by anie person whatsoeuer. ffor hee saith that hee this *respondent* having bin from home on St Thomas eve  
 ^ [nexte] before Christemas last past & comming home att night, found in his howse one Thomas Humfries of Stratton George Bisse, Edmund ffleete, Richard Iellycombe, William Tither, and twoe strange men whose names and habitacion this *respondent* + I + now remembreth not, And in the nexte mo(rn)ing this *examinat* heard the said Humfries to say yat the said St Thomas even the said parties being at this *examinats* howse drinking and making merry togethers, hee the said Humfries had said to one of them good *master* doctor bee good vnto mee and forgiue mee my pennaunce, for one hath begotten mee with childe. Et aliter *respondet* yat hee was not further acquainted heerewith. vnde *dominus* eundem ab officio in hac parte dimisit gratis vsque in novam  
 monicionem./

...

f 326 (11 January)

...

*Officium domini contra* Thomam Humfrie

excommunicacio

ffor deriding and contemptuously mocking and despising ecclesiasticall  
authoritie and the officers executing the same, by counterfayting himself to  
be a woman with childe in fornicacion, and skoffingly putting a linnen  
garment or cloth about his shoulders and as yf a penitentie wear in a  
consistorie saying to one in his companie, good master doctor bee good vnto  
mee etc vti in actu contra Edmundum ffileete de Crossecombe folio 324 huius  
libri expedito constat

Citatus fuit per eundem mandatarium eodem [per] (. )ie Quo die facta  
preconizacione etc et non comparente etc/ dominus pronunciauit eum  
contumacem &c/ ac in penam etc decreuit eundem excommunicandum fore 10  
etc/

...

ff 336v, 338v\*

Officium domini contra Georgium Bysse

324

po:

26 Ianuarij

(...) hunc diem. Citatus fuit per Thomam Seevyer mandatarium etc (blank)  
die instantis Ianuarij &c Quo die comparuit personaliter dictus Bisse quem  
dominus iuramento oneravit &c de fideliter respondendo etc ac monuit &c  
qui in vim iuramenti sui examinatus respondet et fassus est that on the  
satterday [now last past before this his ex (...) christemas] nexte before  
Christmas now last past before this his examinacion this examine being  
att play att cardes in an inner roometh of the howse of Iohn Goodall in  
Crossecombe aforesaid with william Tyther, and Robert Bisse of Crossecombe,  
and one Steeven Hedges of Shepton Mallett, they heard one in an vtter rometh  
of the said howse making an vnaccustomed noise, and asking whoe it was  
awnsver was made that it was one Thomas Humfries did begg to make them  
laugh, And after a whiles this examine & his companie went into the said  
vtter roometh and played theare. And after they had giuen ouer playing att  
cardes, this examine said vnto the rest of his companie, I will awake Humfries  
that hee may begg againe, and make some sport as/ verte ad paginam 2  
secundi folij sequentis ad + l + as he did yester night, meaning the said Thomas  
Humfries whoe att that time was on sleepe in the chimnie corner. And so did  
awake him, and willed him to begg againe as hee had donne yesternight, this  
being about [one] twoe or three of the clock the sonday morning, then the  
said Thomas Humfries denied so to doe vnlesse this examine would giue  
him twoe potts of ale whiche this examine promised to giue him, Then the  
said Thomas Humfries stood vpp and asking said whoe is ye doctor, then said  
this examine vnto him heere is Richard Jellycombe that was youre doctor

3/ linnen: 4 minimis in MS  
8/ (. )ie: ie, die; hole in MS

21-2/ satterday ... examinacion: 19 December 1607

31-2/ verte ... ad +: 'Turn to page 2 of the second folio following at the +'

yesternight. Then Edmund ffleete of the said *parishe* of Crossecombe appointed this *respondent* to bee the apparitor, and named himself to bee register. Then the said Humfries went and tooke a linnen cloth and put it about him, and came to the said Ielleycombe and with a counterfeite voice and countennaunce begged of the said Ielleycombe saying, good master doctor 5  
bee good vnto mee, [my father hath a good living and liueth well, and] I am begotten with childe and heere is the knave yat is the father of it pointing to one Iames dolton a boy then in companie with them, And the said Ielleycombe awnsvered him saying thow art a whore, and thow shalt bee whipte. And these speeches or theire like in effecte passed betweene them et *aliter* negatiue 10  
*respondet*, *submittendo* se etc/1

*Officium domini contra* Willelmum Tyther

*Similiter* decreuit etc. Quo die *similiter* etc. quoad certorium etc. deinde comparuit dictus Tyther et *similiter* actum fuit *contra* eundem quoad 15  
*prestacionem iuramenti* &c prout in actu *proximo precedenti* etc.

issus gratis

## CUCKLINGTON

1610

20

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 163

ff 198–8v (13 November)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Methwyn, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary 25  
public and registrar*

...

*contra* Robertum Lane cordwyner

Novembris

hee hath of long tyme vsed the companye of one Alice Aplegard of weston Buckhorne in the county of dorsett verie suspitiously of incontinent lief 30  
togeathers, insomuche that the *parishners* of Weston aforesaid weare afrayed that shee would trouble them with a bastard thorough theare lewde company keeping togeathers, ffor that they weare seldome asonder fforthemore hee is a common haunter of ale howses spending his tyme in drunkennes, dauncing & singing of ribaldry songes, and seldome repayreth to the church on sondayes 35  
and holyedayes. Seevyer ex ore sui: Quesitus fuit per Thomam Seevyer &c 9. instantis Novembris &c. Quo die comparuit (*blank*)

...

## DITCHEAT

1620

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 231

f 240\* (28 November)

Ditchett

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Hannam*

*Similiter* &c that hee aboute x. or xij weekes agon with divers others were att beare bayting vppon the sabboath daie att eueninge prayer tyme att Wraxall with in the said parishe of ditchett./ *Iohannes* Cooper senior informauit Citetur in *proximum*.

5. Decembris

Eastpennard

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Vagg*Pro eodem delicto/ Citetur in *proximum*.

5 decembris.

1633/4

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 78f [3]\* (24 March)(*Deposition of George Ewens, husbandman, aged 22*)*Taken before Mr Hunt*

Ad detectionem predictam in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit et dicit that on a certaine sondaie happning neere about a twelve monethes agone before this his examination as he nowe remembreth the time this deponent coming homeward from the parishe church of ditchett aforesaid [af] with the detected[e] Arthur dorvell and vppon the waie the said Arthur dorvell told this deponent that mr Allen the vicar there, had that daie preached of a maye pole, but he would mayntayne that a mayepole [him] was an idoll, and the setting vpp of him was Idolatrie, And this he would prove, out of the tenth C<sup>a</sup> h<sup>a</sup>pter of Ieremy. Et aliter nescit deponere [saving that the(.)]

Signum

Georgij + Ewens

...

1634

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 78f [3] (1 April)(*Deposition of John Deane, yeoman, aged 50*)

...

Ad detectionem predictam in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit

9/ Wraxall: Wraxall on the Fosse, 1 mile west of Ditcheat Church

29-30/ the tenth C<sup>a</sup> h<sup>a</sup>pter of Ieremy: Jer 10:3-5

32/ +: Ewens has signed with his personal mark

et dicit that on a certaine daie happning [within] since Michaelmas last past was twelve monethes this deponent talking with Arthur dorvall of manie matters [the same detected Arthur dorvall had espied the mayepole he told this deponent that he would mayntaine and] amongst the rest this deponent began to tell him [cert(.)] of the mayepole that stood in allampton streete in the parishe of ditchett, whoe ymediatelie made answer to this deponent and saied that a [(.)] mayepole was an ideole, and the setting vpp thereof was idolatrie & he would proove it out of the tenth chapter of Ieremy Et aliter nescit deponere./

(signed) Iohn Deane

10

## DONYATT

1603

*Compert Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 134  
loose sheet\* (summer?)

15

...

Thomas Dunster

Wardens

William woodward

Iohn Morse

Hugh Markes

Sydmen

Gyles Clavelshay

20

Thomas Kingman

Things left vnpresented at the *Bishops* visitation.

Imprimis the wardens were not chosen by the consent of the minister according to the law, neither was he called to ye choosing of them

25

2 The old wardens, viz: William Dunster & George Grubham reserved 40 s. of the stocke in their handes to bear the charges of the law yf they were called in question for their vnlawfu(.) keeping of churchale

30

3 The Churchwardens this year, vnorderly kept churchale, with rioting, dauncing & dronkennes vpon the Sabaoth daye: a poor(.) manns sonne named Iohn Dyght (besydes others) being made so dronke that he was not able <sup>^</sup>to<sup>1</sup> goe home, but was layd in a bar(.) or stable <sup>^</sup>near to the churchowse<sup>1</sup> vntill the next morning.

35

4 The Churchwardens haue suffered [bow] & doe suffer bowling & tennis play to be vsed in the churchyard even vpon the Sabaoth daye, & that since the kinges proclamation published to ye contrarie

40

5 The churchwardens will never execute the statute for absenc(.) from the church though I haue often times vrged them with yt. Nay one of the wardens, namely Thomas Dunster, & one of the sydmen called William wodward,

vse themselues oft(.) times to depart owt of the church in the middle of the sermon or sooner especially while the reveling feastes do last.

Many other faultes they haue, & vse to leave vnrepresented, but these being the chiefest, I desyre the reformation of them.

It were good that the penaltie of the statute for keping of churchales were layd vpon the wardens themselues, & that they might not deduct yt owt of the stocke: which would be a mean the rather to restrain them.

[P]

Per me Gulielmum Fies rectorem de Donniet

## DOWLISHWAKE

1635/6

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 131ff [29-9v]\* (8 January) (*Deposition of John Temple of Winsham, joiner*)

*Taken in a chamber of the King's Arms in South Petherton before John Cooke and George Cuthbert, clerics, commissaries, in the presence of Alexander Jett, notary public*

...  
Ad tercium articulum dictorum articulorum in vim Iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit et dicit that [on a] att Whitsontide last was twelve moneth one Anthonie Poole of Dolishwake beinge then one of the Churchwardens of [do] the *said* parishe kepte Churchale att a howse of his [at] in the *said* parishe, but not att his dwelling howse, and this deponent deposeth and sayeth that on a Certaine nighte of a certaine daie hapning [aboute] shortelie after the *said* Whitsontide this deponent haueing byn att the *said* Anthonie Pooles dwelling howse playing vppon a violen vnto some companie that weare there, aboute twelve <sup>or one</sup> of Clock of the *said* nighte this deponent went from the *said* Anthonie Pooles I dwellinge howse downe to his other howse, where the Churchale was kepte, and comming into the buttrie or place where the *said* ale stoode, fownd the articulate Mr Hardie & diuers other drinking & talking togeather, where this deponent continued in theire companie talking & drincking for the space of two or three howres...

## DULCOTE

1624

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 58ff [35–6]\* (9 March–27 April) (*Deposition of John Branch of Wells, pewterer, 5*  
*aged 24*)

...

Ad detectionem predictam in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit  
et dicit that vpon a certaine daie hapning shortlie vpon shrouemonndaie  
last past this deponent being in the halle of the Inne commonlie called by the 10  
name of the white harte in welles togethers with Ioane Goodenow [and]  
Precilla Cooke I servants in the said howse and some other whome hee now  
remembreth not, because hee then tooke noe Notice of them, the said Ioane  
Gooddenow enquired of this deponent att what tyme in the nighte his dame  
came home from dulcott on the said Shrovemonndaie [f] (this examine att 15  
the said tyme being servant to Augustine Iefferies [wief of] husband of the  
detected [Elizabeth] <sup>Λ</sup>[Elinor<sup>1</sup> Iefferies) quod this examine I know not for I  
was then att Bridgwater: Then quod the said Ioane shee, meaning the said  
[Elizabeth] <sup>Λ</sup>[Elinor<sup>1</sup> Iefferies vsed vs very vnkindlie att the said tyme for wee  
being togethers att a wedding att one Iohn Cox his howse of dulcott aforesaid 20  
towards the euening enquired of her wheather shee would goe whome to  
welles or noe, and she said vnto vs that after Supper shee would goe with vs  
if we would staie for her; And after supper as the said Ioane reported to this  
deponent the companie that weare theare att the said tyme went to dauncing  
vntill neere aboute 12. of the clocke <sup>Λ</sup>[in<sup>1</sup> the said nighte, att what tyme the 25  
said [Elizabeth] <sup>Λ</sup>[Elinor<sup>1</sup> Iefferies came to the said Ioane Gooddenow being  
then att daunce and enquired of her if she would goe whom to whome (as she  
said) shee made answere that shee would, assoone as the daunce was ended:  
And that therevpon the detected william Beale being then and theare present  
said vnto the said Elizabeth Iefferies that hee would bringe [a] her whome 30  
and then they went awaie togethers And farther saith that neere aboute an  
hower or an hower and halfe afterwards the said Beale came to the said Iohn  
Cox his howse and finding them [sti] still att daunce hee said will [th] not  
thease townes maides giue of dauncing that wee may goe to daunce to whome  
the said Ioane Gooddenow replied wee staie for M<sup>ris</sup> Iefferies (meaning the 35  
detected I [elizabeth] <sup>Λ</sup>[Elinor<sup>1</sup> Iefferies) whie quod the said Beale she is att  
home and a bedd for an hower agon, for I my selfe brought her home/ Et  
aliter nescit deponere/

...

9–10/ shrouemonndaie last past: 8 February  
21/ enquired: altered from inquired

30/ Elizabeth: for Elinor

## DUNDY

1621

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 222

f 9\* (25 September)

2. Octobris/

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Brocke*

for vsuallie playing of fiues, and cudgills in the churchyard theare on sabbo<sup>a</sup>th daies and holie daies as namelie hee with others did soe vppon St Markes daie last past, & being reproved by the churchwarden for the same hee gaue him a froward answere sayinge wee are att an exercise to doe the kinge service & you will not suffer vs but the whiles you cutt youre neighbors throates./

That on sonndaie j<sup>o</sup> Iulij & on sonndaie 24 [Iulij vltimi] Iunij vltimi hee Arthur Payton, and Edward Ward tayler did daunce in the churchyard there &c folio 343 libri incipientis 6<sup>o</sup> februarij 1620

Decretum fuit eundem (...) fore in hunc diem ad (...) penitenciam etc ex eo quod (...) in purgatione etc/. Quo (...) dominus renovavit decretum (...) et modis contra eundem ad effe(...) quo prius in proximum/.

*Officium domini contra Arthurum Payton*

folio eodem eiusdem libril.

2 Octobris

Pro delicto supramentionato in actu contra supranominatum Iohannem Brocke. Similiter decretum fuit &c Quo die similiter renovatur decretum &c/

*Officium domini contra Edwardum Warde*

pro delicto in actu contra supranominatum Iohannem Brocke mentionato folio eodem eiusdem libril.

2 Octobris/.

Similiter decretum fuit &c Quo die similiter renovatur decretum &c/

f 10

*Officium domini contra Richardum Hulvord*

ffor plaing vppon his instrument to those that vsuallie daunce in the churchyard theare folijs 346 et 269 libri incipientis 6 februarij 1620

2 Octobris

Decretum fuit eundem citandum fore in hunc die ad audiendum voluntatem domini in hac parte iudicantis/. Quo die dominus renovavit decretum contra eum ad effectum quo prius in proximum

...

f 16

...

*Officium domini contra Richardum Adelie*



ffor playenge vppon his instrument to those that vsuallie daunce in the churchyard there folijs 340 et 269 libri incipientis .6. ffebruarij 1620  
(blank)

...

5

### 1635

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 71

ff [209-9v]\* (2 May) (*Deposition of Simon Cotton, curate of Dundry, to articles and positions on behalf of John Fabian, vicar of Chew Magna*)

10

*Taken in the grammar school before Robert Aishe, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Alexander Jett, notary public*

...

Ad secundum et tercium articulos articulorum predictorum et ad posiciones  
additionales ad eosdem in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit et  
dicit That on May daie now last (...)st was twe(...) as this deponent now  
re(...)mbreth the daie this deponent being (...)rate of dundrie & there living in  
a howse neere vnto the Church playnely seeing & perceaving that the articulate  
Arthur Payton, william Weeke & william Horte with others of the Inhabitants  
of Dundrie aforesaid of the younger sorte, were in action aboute settinge vpp  
a May pole in the Church or Chappell yard of Dundrie aforesaid not full  
fower yards from the Tower wall [of] there, this deponent thincking itt not  
see(...) to haue a maypole soe neere placed vnto the church, went vnto them  
that were in agitation about itt & wished them that they should not breake  
the grownd there, but that they should place itt far off from the church,  
[which] where(...) I one (...) that was then makeing off the hole g(...) off, and  
then the articulate Arthur Payton came & tooke vpp the toole & began to  
(...)eede in digging the said hole & replied in scoffinge manner to this  
depone(...) that being that the vicar [meann] did sue for trees there growing,  
they would now (...) him vpp one more, or [v] if the grownds weare his they  
would giue him (...) more into the [ij] bargaine, or (...)ending to the same  
effecte, and (...) said Arthur Payton went on in digging (...) hole & would  
not desiste & the said William Horte that whiles was one of the principallest  
that dressed & peeced<sup>1</sup> the said maypole in the said churchyard, & William  
Weeke Arthur Payton & William Horte all gaue theire assistance to the rearing  
& setting vpp of the said maypole in the said place, where the said Maypole  
remeyneth [vnt] standing vntill this daie, and in the said churchyard & neere  
the said Maypole the said Arthur Payton & William Weeke haue diuers &  
sundrie tymes within the tyme articulated leaped, daunced, and wantonlie  
behaved themselves this deponent haueing [to his greif] byn an [I] ey witnes

18/ playnely: ly corrected from y

therevnto, & [yet could] greives thereat, that they should soe vnreverentlie demeane themselues ...

f [210]\*

... And this deponent sayeth that since this deponents comming to liu(.) & be acquainted in [du] Chew & du(.)drie aforesaid the common repoorte & terme of the [place] grownd in question, whereon the Maypole standeth as aforesaid in those (...) & thereabouts [or] & thereabouts ha(...) & is that it is churchyard, and therefo(.) in this deponents Iudgment not fitt to be prophaned...

f [213]\* (*Deposition of John Weekes of Chew Magna, yeoman, aged 67, on the same articles and positions*)

articulate Arthur Payton william weeke & william Horte weare principall actors in settinge vpp the said Maie pole: And this deponent deposeth & sayeth that the said May pole stooode & was sett vpp within the walls of the said church or chappell yard whereon the trees [gree] grew and stooode for the shrowding of which by common & credible repporte of the [neighbors thereabouts was a] Countrie thereabouts william King, Iohn Brock, Iohn wade & Edward wade of Dundrie aforesaid <sup>1</sup>within these two yeares last<sup>1</sup> weare sued by Mr ffabian the producent in the highe Commission Courte, in which suite the said place where the said trees<sup>1</sup> stooode<sup>1</sup> [was approved to be churchyard] & all within the vtterbownds of the said plott of grownd was as th(.)s deponent hard crediblie reported [approv]<sup>1</sup> adiudged by the said Commissi(.) to be <sup>1</sup>the<sup>1</sup> churchyard of Dundrie aforesaid vppon the proofes taken in that behalfe, & this deponent v(.)rilie beleiveth the same to be true for th(.)t he saw <sup>1</sup>a coppie of<sup>1</sup> an acte of the said Courte whe(.)n itt was <sup>1</sup>mentioned soe to be<sup>1</sup> [soe] adiudged by the said Courte: [to be]...

...

f [216v]\* (*Deposition of Thomas Loscomb of Chew Magna, husbandman, aged 65, to interrogatories on behalf of Payton, Weeke, and Horte*)

...

Ad 6<sup>m</sup> interrogatorium responderet that in his tyme of memorie he hath divers tymes seene bowling in the said Churchyard of dundrie aforesaid without the Inner wall aforementioned & within the outer bownds [t] of the same, aboute [a butt] halfe abutts length or better from the place where the May pole in

9/ & thereabouts [or] & thereabouts: *ditto*graphy  
20/ shrowding of: *written in left margin for insertion here*

37/ without: out *corrected over in*

question stooode as aforesaid & yet standeth for ought this *respondent* knoweth the contrarie, and hath alsoe heeretofore knowne daunceing in the north parte of the said Churchyard without the Inner & within the outer wall there (...) and in his memorie in the same grownd (...) [(.)huttinge] he this *respondent* hath knowne (...) att butts (...) the vtter parte of the (...) 5 (...yard...

*Bishop's Court Interrogatory Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 137  
nf\* (before 23 November)

...

Item *interrogetur* quilibet testis testium *premissorum* whether he doth not know and beleeeve that the Maypole which in the yeare 1634 was sett vpp neere vnto dundry tower wall, was not sett vpp & stooode in the ground within the *precinctes*, boundes and wall which encompasseth round the Chappell of dundry and yard where youth of dundry have vsed to play fives, 15 and enioyned pennaunce for playing there. Et *interrogetur* vt supra.  
Item *Interrogetur* quilibet testis whether he doth not know beleeeve or hath heard say that the said May(.)le [st] soe stooode within the same place where the trees stood which were lately lopped and the loppers punished [into] in the 'high Commission' ... 20

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 81  
ff [176-7v]\* (24 November) (*Deposition of William Brocke, husbandman, aged 64*)

*Taken before William Hunt, cleric, surrogate judge, at his home*

...

Ad *tercium* et *quartum articulos* *posicionum* *additionalium* *predictarum* deponit et dicit that [th] to this deponents certaine knowledg during all the tyme of this deponents remembrance there hath byn a wall of greate stoanes 30 in some places fower or fiue foote highe <sup>^</sup> 'or thereabouts' in the Out side thereof which hath & doth separate & parte the common knowne and receaved churchyard of dundrie aforesaid from the plott or peece of grownd wherein the May pole was placed & sett in the yeare of our Lord God 1634/ [And] which 'plott' or peece of grownd wherein the said May pole stooode 35 that yeare hath some tymes in this deponents memorie byn termed & called by the name of the Churchyard, & sometymes by the name of the Church haie of dundrie aforesaid: And for this deponents parte living in the parishe of dundrie aforesaid for all his lief tyme, he neuer hard or knew that the dead

18/ May(.)le: hole in MS

34/ 1634: date underlined in MS

Corps of anie christian deceased was euer buried in the *said* plott of grownd wherein the May pole stode as aforesaid or <sup>^</sup>[in] anie *parte* thereof, but alwaies in the church or chappell I itt selfe or else in the *said* churchyard within the greate wall aforementioned. Et *aliter* deponere nescit//

Ad quintum articulum *posicionum* additionalium *predictarum* deponit et 5  
 dicit that this deponent was borne within the *parishe* of dundrie aforesaid where he hath alwaies from his bearth lived & yet liveth, And to this deponents certaine knowledg for all the tyme of this deponents memorie, & soe by the common and credible repoorte of the antient men of the *said* *parishe* for the tyme <sup>^</sup>[being],<sup>1</sup> for tyme surpassing the memorie of man, theare hath byn euerie 10  
 yeare [in] a faire kepte in the plott of grownd now in question wherein the May pole [in] stode in the yeare of our Lord God 1634/ & noe contradiction or denyall thereof that euer this deponent hard or knew vntill this last yeare that Mr ffabian the *partie* agent in this busines gaine *said* & opposed the same:

[And the daie for the *said* ffaire yearlie St Geils his daie if it be not Sonndaie]<sup>15</sup>  
 And this deponent likewise deposeth & sayeth that during all the time of this deponents memorie the *said* plott of grownd hath byn a place wherein some sportes or other, & recreations haue byn vsed, & kepte, & noe contradiction thereof that euer this deponent hard or knew vntill since the aforementioned 20  
 Mr ffabian came to be vicar of Chew Magna aforesaid: I And this deponent farther sayeth that to this deponents certaine knowledg since his tyme of remembrance he hath seene & observed seuerall May poles to be sett vpp & placed in the *said* plott of grownd and alsoe in the same grownd dawncing, kissing, bulbayting, Coyting bowling, shooting att Butts Cudgell playing & heads broken theare, and other sportes and recreations vsed had & donne in 25  
 the *said* plott of grownd, and he this deponent him selfe heeretofore in his yourthe [seuer] & since hath seuerall tymes vsed & byn an actor in some of the recreations or sportes aforementioned <sup>^</sup>[d] and the vse of [such] sportes & recreations in the *said* plott of grownd hath byn from tyme to tyme commonlie 30  
 knowne in dundrie & other places & *parishes* thereaboutes: And itt was the common reporte of the antient men of the *said* *parishe* for the tyme being that the *said* plott of grownd had byn a place wherein sportes & recreations had byn observed and kepte from tyme to tyme for tyme surpassing the memorie of man without contradiction or denyall: And amongst manie 35  
 other antient men of the *said* *parishe* this deponent hath heeretofore hard his father Iohn Brock aged by estimation aboue fower scoare yeares old, and dying aboute eghte & twentie yeares agoe to repoorte and talke thereof: Et *aliter* deponere nescit/ I

5/ *articulum: 6 minimis in MS*12/ 1634: *date underlined in MS*15/ if it be not Sonndaie: *written in left margin and marked for insertion here*

Ad sextum articulum posicionum additionalium predictarum deponit et dicit that aboute some 14 or xvteene yeares agoe, this deponent & his contest William Kinge being Churchwardens of the parishe of dundrie aforesaid, in the said year of theire Churchwardenshipp the said William King informed against Arthur Payton named in this article & this [respondents] <sup>1</sup> deponents sonne & some other youth of dundrie aforesaid in this Courte, for daunceing in the plott of grownd aforesaid now in question on the Sabboath daie, and afterwards as the repoorte went & this [respondent] <sup>1</sup> deponent verile beleiveth the same to be true gott them discharged out of the said Courte for the said busines without anie charg vnto them, And this deponent verilie beleiveth the same to be true for that this deponents sonne was one of them that was soe informed against, & to this deponents knowledg, he living then in howse with this deponent & but a youth, he paid noe fees for the said busines: Et aliter deponere nescit/

...

## EAST BRENT

1612

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 171

f 177 (22 September)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

Officium domini contra Emanuelem Crosseman

ffor that vppon the sonday nexte after the Annunciacion of the virgin marie last past, hee togeather with Edward wates of Sowthbrent & Iohn Hooper of Eastbrent aforesaid being in the howse of (blank) dinghows widowe of the said parishe of Eastbrent, deriding, & skoffing att ecclesiastical auctoritie, and especially against the consistorie coort of the lord bishopp of Bathe & Welles, kepte (as they called it) a coort, and called one Iohn Boyce (then and theare present), bastard and would haue had one Thomas Mathue of Limpsham to haue borne an office among them, but hee refused to bee partaker of theire follye. And the nexte morning the did the like, and called one by the name of doctor Iames, annother mr Methwin, annother mr Huishe and annother mr Maicock, and annother Chipper. Dictus Thomas Mathue dedit Informaciones./ °Citatus fuit per Chipper 8<sup>o</sup> die mensis septembris etc. Quo die (blank)°

communicatio

11/ that: t written over incomplete w(?)

28-9/ the sonday ... past: 29 March 1612

34/ Limpsham: 2 miles northwest of East Brent

excommuni-  
cator

Officium domini contra Iohannem Hooper  
 °Pro eodem criminel Citatus fuit *per* eundem eodem die etc. Quo die (*blank*)°

1620

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 36  
 ff 49-50\* (3 July)

*Proceedings of the court held in the episcopal palace before Arthur Lake, bishop of Bath and Wells, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

Concerninge Diuers abuses comitted in the said parishe of Eastebrente within thease six monethes nowe laste paste the lawes ecclesiasticall of this realme of Englande dominus episcopus &c

*contra Dominum Thomam Hill clericum curatum ibidem*

Quibus die & loco comparuit personaliter dictus Hill cui Dominus episcopus antedictus iuramento oneravit etc de fideliter respondendo &c ac monuit &c Tunc dictus Hill in vim iuramenti sui examinatus respondet et credit that one Richarde Dodd of the parishe of Eastebrente on diuers [tym] sabbaoth dayes hath frequented a certaine howse in Eastebrente aforesaid called the redd lyon  
 ^an Inne^ att the tyme of divine seruice and especially on sonday the xxj<sup>th</sup> of May nowe laste paste, & on sonday the seconde of Iulie nowe in coorse, and that hee hath bin, & is vsually absente from eveninge prayer on sabbaoth & holyedayes./. And that the said Richarde Dodd hath bin, & is a common player att fives vppon the sabbaoth day in the churcheyarde on the sabaoth day, and that one Thomas Vincente, Iohn Baker, Iohn kingesburye ^William Dinghurst^ & manie others haue, & doe prophane the sabboath Day in playinge att fives as the said Dodd hath donne aswell on sonday the second of this instante Iulie as vsually on other sondayes & holyedaies. Et vltorius respondet et Dicit that on sonday the xiiij<sup>th</sup> day of May nowe laste paste or theareaboutes by meanes of the said Richarde Dodd & Emanuell Croseman, a man theareaboutes (whose name this examine remembreth not to the greate prophanation of the sabbaoth was carryed out of ye said Inne called the redd lyon in a whele barrrowe drunke/ Et vltorius respondet et fassus est y<sup>a</sup> on wednesday the xvij<sup>th</sup> day of May nowe laste paste or one sonne other day theare aboute this examine being in [the] a chamber of the said Inne called the redd lyon in Eastebrent l aforesaid togeather with Roberte Balche, William

12/ the lawes: for against the lawes

16/ Dominus: 3 minims in MS

25-6/ vppon the sabbaoth day ... on the sabaoth day: second phrase redundant

32/ not: closing parenthesis omitted after this word

Dinghurst, Emanuel Crosseman, <sup>Λ</sup>[William Thomas of Bridgewater,<sup>1</sup> Richarde  
 Dodd of Eastebrente, and one Humfry Grove of Spaxton, att breakefaste, the  
 said William Thomas tooke thonges out of his pockett & with them did  
 whippe this *respondent* about the legges s(.) yat hee felte it so smarte, &  
 that thearevppon, this *examine* asked him why hee did so, whoe awnsvered 5  
 saying, I will vse all priestes so yat will come vnto oure company and will not  
 pay [theyre], the residue seeing his said disorder. And also this *examine*  
 awnsvereth & sayth that on saturday morninge the xx<sup>th</sup> of May nowe laste  
 paste or theareabouts the aboue named Richarde dodde, Emanuel Crosseman,  
 William dinghurst and lohn dinghurst of Eastebrente aforesaid (as this 10  
*examine* hath hearde comonlie & generalie reported amonge the honeste  
 & substantiall *parisheners* theare) being in companie togethers with other  
*persons* in the said Inne called the redd lyon, they had a dogge with them  
 vnto whome they gaue twoe cannes of ale <sup>Λ</sup>[or beere<sup>1</sup>] and that after the said  
 dogge had Drunke the said drinke, they putt a tabacco pype in the dogges 15  
 mowth, and that hee helde the pype faste in his mowthe and that the said  
 lohn dinghurse being hyred by the said Richarde dodde, did make a [co]  
 blacke coate of stuffe with a hoale over his heade for the sayde dogg, and  
 putt it vppon him, with a girdle about the midle, & turned him loose about  
 the streate and called him by the name of cutt glasyer, saying yat they woulde 20  
 make a younge priest of him. And that the said Emanuel Crosseman toulde  
 this *respondent* that they <sup>Λ</sup>[weare like to have<sup>1</sup>] [shoulde bee] sent for <sup>Λ</sup>[the  
 priestes<sup>1</sup>] to christen the said dogge. Et aliter nescit l *respondere* etc. nec credit  
 &c. saving yat the same day this *respondente* sawe the said coate or garment,  
 with the girdle to bee taken from the said dogge by Thomasin Symme the wief 25  
 of (blank) Symme of the same *parishe* in the vicaredge howse of Eastebrente  
 aforesaid, and in the chamber wheare one [(.)] lohn Crosseman dwelleth.

(signed) teste me Thoma Hill  
 curato de East Brent

...

30

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 231

ff 80v-1\* (18 July)

...

*Officium domini contra Richardum Dodd*

35

ffor that he with divers others of the said *parishe* arayed vpp a dogg in a coate  
 of blacke made for him with a hooide vppon the head terming him to be a prist  
 and for christninge the dogg, or in goinge aboute to doe itt in very scandalouse  
 sorte, and to the greate profanation of the holie sacrament of baptisme./

And for tipplinge and bowsing, and drunkennes in the Inne theare, and in 40  
 other places on sonndaies & holidiaies./.

[(...)]

*Citatus fuit personaliter apprehensus infra parochiam sancti Cutberti Wellensis per Davidem Kinge mandatarium etc 17<sup>o</sup> die instantis Iulij etc super quo fidem fecit &c Quo die facta preconizazione pro dicto Dod et non comparente etc dominus pronunziavit eundem contumacem &c*

*Officium domini contra Thomam Vincent  
Pro eodem delicto./*

Mathei./

*Similiter etc quoad certorium etc Quo die similiter actum fuit provt in actu proximo precedenti mutatis tantum mutandis &c/*

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Baker  
Pro eodem delicto/*

Mathei./

*Quesitus fuit per eundem mandatarium 15<sup>o</sup> die instantis Iulij etc super quo fidem fecit etc Quo die dominus decrevit (blank)*

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Kingsburie  
Pro eodem delicto/*

Mathei

*Citatus fuit personaliter apprehensus infra parochiam sancti Cutberti Wellensis per eundem mandatarium [ei] 17<sup>o</sup> die instantis Iulij etc super quo fidem fecit &c [Quo die] Citetur de novo/*

*Officium domini contra Willelmum Dinghurst  
Pro eodem delicto/*

Mathei

*Similiter etc quoad certorium etc./ [Quo die] Citetur de novo./*

## 1620/1

*Quarter Sessions Roll SRO: Q/SR 38*

*f 27 (Examination of Thomas Hill)*

*Taken before Sir Edward Rodney, justice of the peace*

This is the  
materiale  
examinacion

...

*Iohn Bacon came to this examine being in his [bed] [<sup>9</sup>house<sup>9</sup>] one saturday mor(...) about seven of the clock and told him that there had beene abu(. )es at the red lyon, and that Richard Dodd, Emanuell Crosman [and] William Hodges and William Thomas weere there and had beene there [tipling] [<sup>7</sup>drinking<sup>7</sup>] the most part of the night; and that they [(.)] made a dogg drunk and putt a tobacco pipe in the doggs mouth an(.) sett breed before him and certeine cannos of [ber] drink about him with purpose to make the dogg ashamed, [and]./*

*About an houre after [this] Emanuell Crosman came to him and spoke to him for a sallett and told him that [(.)] they [and] had been vpp all night at the redd lyon making merry and that they weere like to have sent for him to haue christened a dogg*



Iohn Crosman told this Examine often that [they called] 'Richard Dodd did name<sup>1</sup> the dogg at that time Cutte-Hill and hath since called him so often Further this examine sayeth that before this meeting they weere wont to call the dogg cutte Glasier in derision of one Glasier whom they had made drunk/

5

...

*Examination of John Dinghurst, tailor*

He confeseth that about midnight the time abouesaid Richard Dodd 10  
 abouesaid <sup>^</sup>and Emanuell Crosman<sup>1</sup> came to this examine he dwelling next  
 house to the red lyon and called 'him' vpp to make a cote for a dogg, and  
 promised him 5 s. [for] to doe it whereof he payed but 6 d./  
 He told him it should be made like mr Hills cote and the colour should be  
 black or nothing. After the cote was made and sowed about the dogg, [and 15  
 Do[g]d] 'they' carried this examine with them to the taverne, [and] where  
 they [found] satt downe to drink at the table, on which they putt the dogg,  
 and putt cannes of beare about him, and made the dogg drunk, Dodd holding  
 open his mouth [whil] and pouring in the drink, and they sayed that they  
 would change his name from Cutte-glasier to Cutte-Hill and therevpon 20  
 powring some of the drinke before them vpon the dogg head made the signe  
 of the crosse ouer him: and saied that Robert Glasier and Emanuell Crosseman  
 should be his godfathers. but he denyeth that he vsed any other wordes when  
 he powred the drink on the dogg, but Cutte-Hill./  
 He further sayeth that Dod [hath] did threaten him if euer he did confesse 25  
 anything, saying it should be the worse for him with other great wordes.

1639

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 330

f 34 (25 June)

30

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral*

...

Officium domini contra Willimum Dodd, Iohannem Dodd, Edwardum Wills,  
 Robertum Leafe (...) illimum Morrice Iohannem Morrice, Stephanum Verbie 35  
 Thomas Haie & Iohannem Traisdon  
 denunciatur domino Iudicanti that they on the sondaie after Maie day last  
 past did fetche a Maie pole in time of Eveninge prayer & were absent from  
 Church att that time Backwell Citetur

...

40

18/ holding: l inserted

19/ sayed: say written over other letters

37-8/ the sondaie ... past: 5 May

39/ Citetur: for Citentur

## EAST COKER

1616

*Bill of Complaint in Buckland v. Pennye et al* PRO: STAC 8/49/8 item 10  
single mb\* (30 April)

...  
...the said Confederates knowinge that the said ffrauncis Wood about december  
in the Twelveth yeare of your *Maiesties* most happie Raigne over this your  
Realme of England kept a grammer Schole in the Church house of the said  
*parishe* for the instructinge and teachinge of the youthes of the said parish 10  
beinge a place vearie fitt and convenient for that purpose, did therevpon take  
occasion (contrarie to the good will of your said subiecte and without his leave  
or consent or anie other necessity cause or Coulour therof) to place in the said  
Chapple the said ffrauncis Wood, vnder pretence and coulour to keepe schole  
and teach and instructe youth in the same, But in vearie truth of purpose to 15  
picke quarrells to your said subiecte and to discontynue and overthrowe godes  
divine service in the said Chappell and to tourne and convert the same to some  
other prophane vse and imployment: And the said ffrauncis Wood haveinge  
by such meanes gotten the vse and possession of the said Chappell did most  
prophanely and without the feare of god or respecte to what end the said Chappell 20  
was first ordayned not only teache Schollers there in the rudimentes of letters  
and grammer beinge otherwise provided of a fitter place as aforesaid: But alsoe  
did keepe a schole of defence commonly called a fence schole within the said  
Chappell, And did likewise by the Countenaunce abettment and *procurement*  
of the said other Confederates keepe in the same a Cockpitt game, and fightinge 25  
Cockes, which did vearie often and sundry tymes fight in the said Chapple,  
by occasion wherof not only the said Confederates but alsoe dyvers other idle  
and disordered persons did daylie make their Common repayre and exercise  
their vayne disportes in the said Chapple wherby there did ofentymes arise  
sundrie quarrells braules and other abuses within the same to the contempt 30  
of god and his word which otherwise was every saturday in the forenoone  
continually and dulle mynistered in the said Chapell...

...  
*Interrogatories in Buckland v. Pennye et al* PRO: STAC 8/49/8 item 6 35  
single mb (before 24 May)

...  
3. Item did not the said ffrauncis wood vse Cockefightinge and fenceinge in the  
said Chappell? And were not you a party in vseinge the said sportes? and who els  
were your associates and Companions in keepeinge the said Cockfightinge 40  
and fenceinge there? how often have you seen or hard of Cockfighting and  
fenceinge [there] in the said Chappell? and when? And did you ever see the

same vsed there vppon a Sabbath day? and what are their names that vsed or were *partakers* in vseinge the said sportes in the said Chappell vppon the Sabbath day? And have there not bene divers quarrells and brawles within the said Chappell about the said Cockfightinge and fenseing, and what are their names *which* did soe quarell or brawle there? and how often have you seene  
5 such quarrelling and brawleinge in the said Chappell?/

4. Item were not you at the said Chappell vppon the xxviijth day of August last past, did not you heare the *Complainant* *perswade* the said ffrauncis wood to geve offe goinge into the said Chappell to teach schoole and vse his said games of Cockfightinge and fenceing there...  
10

...

*Examination in Buckland v. Pennye et al* PRO: STAC 8/49/8 items 7 and 8  
mb [1]\* (24 May) (*Examination of Henry Masters, yeoman*)

...

3 To the third Interrogatory this defendant saith that the said ffrauncis wood did not vse cockfightinge in the said chappell at anie tyme to this defendant's knowledge neither did he at anie tyme see anie cockfightinge ther since the *plaintiff* was vicar of Eastcoker neither did this defendant <sup>^</sup>[either] knowe of anie fencyng in the said Chappell [neither] neither was he a party in vsinge  
20 anie Cockfightinge or fencyng ther neither had this defendant anie associates or Compagnions in keepinge fencyng & Cockfightinge ther but Confesseth that he was present once when the schollers had Cockefighting ther but hath not often heard of fencyng or Cockfightinge <sup>^</sup>[ther] but as before is said and this defendant directly saith that he never knewe the same vsed ther vppon a  
25 Sabbaoth daie neither that ther hath bynn anie quarrells or brawlinges in the said Chappell about the said Cockfightinge & supposed fencyng and more to this Interrogatory he deposeth not

...

1617

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 29

ff 10-10v (3 November) (*Examination of Giles Chappell, tailor*)

*Taken before Dr Gerard Wood, archdeacon of Wells, justice of the peace*  
35

...

This Examinant beeing demaunded how hee cam to heare of the meetinge that was in Nicholas Traske his Howse [hee] answereth that hee heard of it from Iohn Gyles & Walter Gerwise, whosse testimonie agreeth with the Confession of this Examinant. and beeing farther demaunded if he heard  
40

39-40/ whosse ... Examinant: in left margin, wrongly marked for insertion before Iohn Gyles

the parties named that [wh] were att the aforesayd meetinge sayeth that one  
 (blank) Stacie an Excommunicate person dwellinge att Odcombe was one, whoe  
 att that time tooke vppon <sup>h</sup>him<sup>l</sup> the person of a Minister, and in imitation  
 of a habite (as the Examinant supposeth) hee had a peice of eyther a bed or  
 bench matt about his shoulders; and beinge farther demaunded if [hee<sup>l</sup> heard  
 of anie other that were there hee answereth that (as hee heard) one Robert  
 Moore, and Gyles Gyles of West Coker were there allsoe And beeinge farther  
 demaunded if since the time that hee the sayd Examinant had presented the  
 aforesayd meetinge in Nicolas Traske Howse anie one had <sup>g</sup>iven<sup>l</sup> threatninge  
 or discontentinge wordes vnto him concerninge his sayd presentment hee  
 sayeth that Nicholas Traske (as hee the said Examinant stood in [his] <sup>t</sup>he<sup>l</sup>  
 dore of his Howse [In] in East Coker aforesayd) comminge by the dore asked  
 him Where is the Catt? a plague of God on yow. And beeinge farther asked  
 whatt the aforesayd Nicholas Traske sayd to him as hee the aforesayd Examinant  
 was comminge through the Church att Weles with the Right Wotshipfull Master  
 Dr Wood aforsayd I hee sayeth that [Nicolas Traske] hee sayd in angry sort  
 We may thancke the for this and muttered some more wordes which hee the  
 sayd Examinant vnderstood not; And beeinge farther asked if [hee] <sup>a</sup>fter<sup>l</sup>  
 att the sayd meetinge hee heard that anie were excommunicated hee sayeth  
 that the aforesayd Stacie takinge vppon him the person of an Ecclesiastical  
 Iudge threatned a mayd <sup>a</sup>the<sup>l</sup> servant <sup>a</sup>then<sup>l</sup> of William Gyles, that hee would  
 excommunicate her and that shee should not bee restored vntill shee came to  
 him. And the sayd Examinant beeinge examined if there were anie other  
 meetinge or misrule in the Towne after the aforesayd meetinge in Nicolas  
 Traske his Howse, hee answereth that there was Bull and Beare baytinge for  
 a day & a half [after that] & other misrule in the Night.

(signed) Gerard Woodes

Giles Chappell

f 11 (Examination of Nicholas Traske, tailor)

This examinant Confesseth yat aboute a fortnight before the feast of St michael  
 there came certaine company into his house in the afternoone whose names  
 were these that follow Anthony Stacy who would be called by the name of  
 Sir Anthony tooke a matt made a hole in it <sup>a</sup>put it aboute his necke<sup>l</sup> and sayd  
 it should be his surples was downe of his knees and drunke. <sup>a</sup>one<sup>l</sup> [an] other  
 of the Company was Robert moore of West Coker who lay vpon the bench  
 [the] an another was William Hooper of East Coker who beat the matt about  
 Stacyes Eares, another was Giles Giles who was alsoe vpon his knees with the  
 aforesayd Stacy [they had before them] and one Richard Butcher of East Coker  
 Richard Butcher tooke the pott from the table and sett it in the middest of  
 them And the said Examinant saith he hath a Catt in his house but to his

knowledge he sayth they tooke not the Catt. and the *said* examinant saith that [the] <sup>1</sup>some of the<sup>1</sup> Company remained in his house all night and went <sup>1</sup>not<sup>1</sup> thence till aboute eight of the Clocke in the morninge to witt Stacy & moore: and the said Stacy spoke vnto the Brewer of the said Nicholas Traske that he should not <sup>1</sup>come<sup>1</sup> neare him for he was an excommunicate person <sup>1</sup>&<sup>1</sup> 5 the said Nicholas Traske confesseth that he brewed at the same time too and forty Bushells of malte against there Reuell day, And the *said* examinant confesseth that William Giles then Constable who refused to bringe these parties before my Lord Bushop vpon his warrant examined mary Giles in his owne house whether she was called [vpo] to be a gossip. And the afore *said* 10 examinant saith the said Stacy tooke vp the matt and said he would not leaue his Sirplus behinde him and soe went homeward with it aboute his necke and as one Richard Banfield of East Coker reporteth diuers gentlemen mett the *said* Stacy and asked him if he were madd but he answered noe I am a [p] parson & the vicar of Eastcoker is suspended and I haue bin there to say prayer. 15 3s. Nicholas X Traske (signed) Gerard Woodes his marke

## 1634

*Report of Bishop of Bath and Wells on East Coker Chapel* PRO: SP 16/535 20  
ff [3v-4]\* (24 December)

...

I find that this Chappell is distant from the *parishe* Church about a quarter of a mile, and that Mr Archdeacon Heliars howse where he vsually dwelleth, is not neare the Chappell, but close to the *parishe* Church./ 25

I find likewise that the Deane, and Chapter of Exon. doe not appeare, nor meddle at all in this businesse, agaynst the Vicar of East Coker, but onely Mr Heliar, as an Inhabitant of East Coker (I thinke) not as Canon of Exon./ I find moreover, by the Confession of some of the *parishioners* of East Coker, that this Chappell hath beene prophan'd diuerse wayes, and at diuerse times 30 heretofore, by weddinge dinners kept there, and by dancinge in the Chappell at those weddinges, and by layinge of hempe, and other Comodities in it: I And moreover it hath beene defiled by Vagrantes, and Cattell; But this Chappell was repayred about 7 yeares synce by the benefitt that was made by a Church-ale, and 40 li. or thereaboutes hath beene bestowed in makinge 35 seates in the sayd Chappell and in beautifyinge of it.

And this is all *which* I could collect in the examinacion of this cause; *which* is now to bee further considered of, and determined by your Grace./

*Guillelmus Bath & Wellensis./*

71 examinant: *for* examinant

161 X: *Traske has signed with his personal mark*

## EAST CRANMORE

1623

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 232

f 106v\* (23 September)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Arthur Duck, LL.D., vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

*contra* Iohannem Moore

(*blank*) Cum quadam Ioanna Harvye de <sup>a</sup>[Holcombe] [*eadem*] uxor cuiusdam  
(*blank*) Harvye quia est in carcere apud yeevilchester.

Ac quod desuper laborat publica vox et fama

And yat about half <sup>a</sup>[or three quarters of] a yeere since or theare aboutes they  
weare alone togeathers 4<sup>er</sup> or 5. howers, ye doares beinge shutt in a howse,  
when as theare was a bulbatinge att which bul-baytinge hee would not bee  
for yat hee would then enioye her companie the more freelie.

Quibus die comparuit dictus Moore, cui dominus obiecit detectionem &c ac  
eundem iuramento oneravit etc de fideliter respondendo &c ac monuit &c  
qui mediante iuramento examinatus responderet et non credit deteccionem esse  
veram in aliquo et quod non credit famam aliquam etc. Et monitus est ad  
comparendum in proximo et sic singulis sessionibus &c in finem litis et decrevit  
testes citandos fore in proximum ad [te] iustificandum &c/

...

30 septembris

## EAST HARPTREE

1608

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 4

f 48\* (31 October) (Re-examination of Thomas Councell of Wedmore, husbandman)

*Taken before Francis Baber, justice of the peace*

...

Who saith that att his being att Cheddar ffaier last, he this examinat mett  
with George Phippen who there Called him to drincke with him att an  
alehowse there, and Coming out of the said Alehowse with the saide  
Phippen, the said Phippen entered into speeche with him: and desired this  
examinates Company to Continewe in the Towne all nighte, demanding of  
him what money hee had in his purse, who saide hee had viij s., which hee

19/ Quibus: for Quo

purposed to bestowe in woole for some apparell, And further the said Phippen moved this *Examinat* att that instant to meete him att Pensfoord faier, and that hee woulde drive for him twoo beastes to Reddhill nott farre from Pensfoord aforesaid, where the said Phippen promised this *examinat* to meete him, betweene the said place called redhill, and the faire place, att pensforde aforesaide, & said that hee would bring the said twoo beastes, either into knowle Moore, in the *parishe* of Wookey, or els into a Close of Edward Pooles of Easton adioyninge to the said Moore, where hee should finde the saide beastes, and that this *examinat* should knowe the saide Beastes, by reason that hee intended to driue the saide beastes thorowe a dirty lane, and on Thursdaysomewhat before night this *examinat* Came vnto the said ground of Edward Poole where hee founde the said beastes according to thappointement of the said Phippen, *which* said twoo beastes this *examinat* did dryve away on ffridaie Morninge an hower before day towards Pensffoord fayer, the said Phippen excusing himself that hee could nott goe with the said Beastes in respect hee had promised to bee att a bullbaiting att Eastharptrie where he had a Brother dwelte promising to meete this *examinat* att redhill aforesaide, and to give this *examinat* xx s. for his paines./

(signed) Francis Baber

...

20

## EAST PENNARD

1603/4

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 8

25

f 94 (12 January)

*Jury presentment for Whitstone hundred at Bruton sessions*

...

We doe present that Iohn Gvshe [Glo(. )er] of the *parishe* of Easte Pennard in the Countye of Somerset Glouer doeth <sup>^</sup>comonly<sup>^</sup> sell Ale with out lycence And did keepe bede Ales and Bull baytinges And Entertayne leowde *persones* <sup>^</sup>about Michelmas last<sup>^</sup> beinge oftentymes forbiden and presented

30

1620

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 231

35

f 193v\* (24 October)

...

*Officium domini contra Hugonem Palmer*

[*Citetur in proximum*] ffor leadinge of his beare abroad aboute the cuntrie &

40

5/ pensforde: in italic script

31 Octobris/

beatinge of the same vppon the sabboathe daie/. [citetur in *proximum*]/. & namelie in Eastpennard./ Citetur in *proximum*

f 200v\*

...

Eastpennard

*Officium domini contra dictum Iohannem Beenes*

7 Novembris

ffor that hee with Iohn Cooper the elder, and Thomas Cooper weare att beare bayting vppon the sabboath daie att the tyme of euening prayer aboute two moneths agon./ See *tyer* Quesitus fuit per eundem mandatarium 30 die instantis Octobris &c super quo fidem fecit &c Quo die dominus decrevit (*blank*)

10

Ditchett

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Cooper seniore*

7 Novembris

Pro eodem delicto/ *Similiter* etc quoad certorium etc Quo die *similiter* decretum fuit &c

15

Ibidem

*Officium domini contra Thomam Cooper*

7. Novembris

Pro eodem delicto/ *Similiter* quoad certorium etc Quo die.

...

## ENGLISHCOMBE

20

1588

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 85

ff [101v-2]\* (2 October)

25

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the parish church of Wrington before John Daye, LL.D, official principal, in the presence of Robert Owen, notary public*

...

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Robbettes*

*presentatur* yat hee with others wente by nighte to fetche a somer lugg haveinge with them iij woemen & maydens viz katherine Butler, marian morlie & a servaunte of one Richard Cossier of theire parishe

30

Excommunicatio

*Citatus fuit eodem die per eundem mandatarium super quo fidem fecit etc. Quo die similiter actum fuit prout in actu precedenti contra Thomam Steuens.*

35

*Officium domini contra Thomam Lunettes*

*presentatur pro eodem crimine.*

*Similiter quoad Certorium Quo die similiter actum fuit prout in actu precedenti contra Ioannam Skrine de Batheforde.*



*Officium domini contra Thomam Ienninges.*  
*presentatur pro eodem delicto./*  
*Citetur erga proximum./*

*Officium domini contra Katherinam Buttler* 5  
*presentatur pro eodem crimine*  
*Similiter quoad Certorium. Quo die similiter actum fuit prout in actu precedenti*  
*contra Iohannem Robettes./*

*Officium domini Marianam Moryleye* 10  
*presentatur pro eodem crimine*  
*Similiter quoad Certorium Quo die simili modo excommunicata l*

*Officium domini contra famulam Richardi Cosyer*  
*presentatur pro eodem crimine.* 15  
*Simili modo. Quo die similiter excommunicata.*  
 ...

## ENMORE

1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/S1 7  
 f 11\* (21 September)

*Jury presentment for Andersfield hundred* 25  
 ...

Inprimis we presentt that Edward Hangcoke of Enmer in the Countie of  
 Somerset yeoman did sell ale and kepe Baire beatinge at Blacksole greene in  
 Enmer aforesaid, the first daye of August last past with out licence, *contra*  
*formam Statuti.*

... 30

## FARLEIGH HUNGERFORD

1610

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 163  
 f 187v (30 October)

35

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before*

*Anthony Methuyn, cleric, stb, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

*contra Willelmum Mathue*

Hee being a churchwarden is a common player att bowles on the sabbaoth day and that hee is a keeper of brawling & swearing companie and minstrelsy & dauncing in his howse & daunceth himself on sabbaoth & holye dayes  
*tempore divinorum et probabit[.]ur./ Gorway*

*Citatus fuit per eundem 28 instantis octobris &c Quo die comparuit et iuratus negavit omnia, et pro defectu probacionis dominus eundem ab officio in hac parte dimisit./*

...

dimissus gratis

## FARLEIGH IN BACKWELL

1607

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 155

f 232\* (27 October)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

Booreton nuper modo de Winford†

*Officium domini contra Iosiam Cox*

within these xij monethes last past hee & one Iohn wood the younger de  
 Boorton & one (*blank*) Bendi of Booreton, the said Cox his mothers man,  
 and a man of mr Winters of Clapton being in one Sweekes howse an alehowse  
 at ffarlye drinking togeathers, the said Cox having bread and drinck before  
 him tooke ye bread & vsed the words of institucion of the lords supper, and  
 so gaue it them. And then tooke the cupp, and gaue them to drinck vsing  
 the words of [consecrac] Institucion as take eate etc And take and drinck etc  
 most profanelye alluding it to the Institucion and ministracion of the holy  
 sacrament of the bodye and bludd of christe.

*Consule responsum contra dictum Iohannem wood penes filatium quoad premissa remanentia*

*Citatus fuit 25 die instantis octobris per Laurentium Hill mandatarium etc./ Quo die comparuit personaliter dictus Cox quem dominus iuramento oneravit &c de fideliter respondendo etc monuit &c qui in vim iuramenti sui examinatus respondet et fassus est that in hay harvest time now last past before this his examinacion was xij monethes vt modo tempus recolit this examine/ verte  
 ad folium 237 huius libri ad hanc figuram + ...*

po:  
 3 Novembris  
 17 [octobris]  
 'Novembris'

Stet

*Officium domini contra Iohannem wood iuniorem*  
Pro eodem.

Quo die ex eo quod dictus wood subiuit eius examen histerno die in vim iuramenti etc penes filatium remanens etc dominus ex eo quod non constat eundem fuisse culpabilem, dominus dictum wood ab officio dimisit gratis in novam monitionem./ 5

*Officium domini contra Abednago<sup>h</sup> nem Stallard<sup>1</sup> [bendy]*  
Pro eodem

Quo die introducto mandato etc comparuit personaliter dictus stallard quem dominus iuramento oneravit &c de fideliter respondendo etc ac monuit etc qui in vim iuramenti examinatus respondet et fassus est that they haue bin drinking in company togeathers, but sayth vppon his othe that hee neuer heard nor sawe the abuse mentioned in this deteccion nor any suche like/ 10

## FIDDINGTON

15

1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 7

f 50\* (20 July)

20

*Jury presentment for Cannington hundred*

...

Itim<sup>r</sup> [bene]<sup>1</sup> we present that Thomas Nacion of ffidington <sup>h</sup>[husband<sup>1</sup>] did on Whitmunday last keepe Bulbeating contrarie to the forme of his articles 25

...

Itim we present Iohn Ienkinges of keen thorne Tucker did keepe Bulbeating the xx<sup>th</sup> daie of Iune

...

30

## FIVEHEAD

1610

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 163

f 40v\* (15 May)

35

*Proceedings of the morning session held in Wells Cathedral before Edward Tynes, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

*contra* [Willelmum Yellet,] Thomam Handcock, aquabagilum, Willelmum Sally iuniorem, Iohannem Brine et Nicholaum Bryne 40

24/ Itim: 3 minims in MS

25/ Whitmunday last: 13 June

5 Iunij.

Edward Nurton de eadem *denunciauit* mandatario  
ffor acting a stage play in the howse of Nicholas Bryne in ffiffehead on sonday  
6 maij *instantis* att evening prayer time, and drawing a greate multitude of  
people togeathers Citetur in *proximum secundum*.

Swell

5 Iunij

*contra* Willelmum Iellett et Willelmum ffox  
ffor acting the play as abouesaid Citetur in *proximum 2l*.

## FLAX BOURTON

1616

*Bill of Complaint in Prowse v. Coxse et al* PRO: STAC 8/242/15 item [2]  
single mb\* (12 November)

...

...in or about the monthe of May in the twelueth yeare of your highnes said  
Raigne the saide Robert Coxse <sup>4/</sup> Robert Blanch Edward Bendell<sup>1</sup> and the rest of  
the saide Riotores did most vnlawfully erect certaine [Cottages] & Cabine[tters]  
in & about the said ground for the better & more forcible deteyning of the  
possession of the said premisses And there being vnlawfully weaponed with  
gunnes billes staues fforest billes and other weapons did day and night in  
outragious manner keepe the possession of the saide premisses by the space of  
one yeare or thereaboutes In which tyme the saide Riotores did most vnlawfully  
sell ale & keepe disordered typling drawing & assembling together certaine  
wandring minstrelles and other loose and disolute persons to the great contempt  
of your Maiesties lawes and statutes...

...

## FROME

1568

*Compert Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 40

f [6]

*Comperts arising from the ordinary visitation by Gilbert Berkeley, bishop of Bath  
and Wells, held on 26 April*

...

Item William Spenser bayteth beares vpon the Sabaoth daye/ *dominus monuit*  
ei quod de cetero non committat huiusmodi delictum. die dominico etc. vnde  
dismissus

1/ mandatario: io corrected from ium

4/ Citetur: for Citentur

7/ Citetur: for Citentur

17/ certaine ... Cabine[tters]: for a certaine cabine (?)

c 1580

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 16

nf\*

...

...And moreover vppon a sonndaie happening about a moneth or six weekes 5  
 agon last past before this his examination likewise he this deponent and Iohn  
 Lewes his precontest [(...) weare coming] 'came' from mr Kirkes howse  
 cytu(.)t in ffrome through the churchyard of the saide parish about seuen  
 of the clocke in the evening and as they passed through the churchyard they  
 found a minstrell plaing in the churchyard vppon a rebick hauing many youths 10  
 about him daunsing weare also was at the same tyme the foresaid William  
 Stokes who said vnto this deponent rebuking the company for daunsing in  
 the churchyard, that for that they weare put in at the l (...) daunsing (...)

...

15

1606

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 146

f 42 (29 April)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral 20*  
*before Anthony Methuyn, MA, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward*  
*Huishe, notary public*

*Officium domini contra Iohannem George alias Cole.*

Notatur de incontinentia cum quadam Elizabetha davyes vxore Christoferi 25  
 davyes de eadem, hee vseth to call her in the nighte tyme out of her howse  
 from her husband & ^[to] carry her to dauncing & other sportes and  
 mearymentes, to the greate dislike of theire neighbors, ac desuper laborant  
 publica vox et fama Gorway  
 Citetur in proximum 30

*Officium domini contra dictam Elizabetham Davyes*

Pro eodem delicto

Similiter etc

...

35

1608

*Bill of Complaint in Best v. Frowd et al* PRO: STAC 8/48/16 item [2]  
 single mb\* (22 June)

...

...And the said Stephen Cooke Thomas Allwood thelder and Elizabeth his

40

wieffe Richard ffrowd and Iohan his wieffe Iohn Allwood and Anne his wiffe Thomas Allwood the younger and Alice Allwood and the said other rioteous persons soe riotously Being assembled rainged vp and downe the groundes of your said Subiect in Allwood street aforesaid vpon the said last daie of Iuly last past and since that said last daye of Iuly last past vppon the seaventh daie of August then followeing and your said Subiect beinge in peaceable maner vpon the said last day of Iuly last past and vpon the said seaventh daie of August last past also They the said Stephen Cooke Thomas Allwood Elizabeth his wieffe Iohn Allwood and Anne his wieffe Alice Allwood Thomas Allwood the younger Richard ffrowd and Iohan his wieffe with diuers other persons being their consortes then and there did most rioteouslie violentlie forcible and vnlawfullie vpon the said last daie of Iuly last past and vppon the said seaventh daye of August last past with rapiers daggers stones & other vnlawfull weapons as aforesaid encounter your said subiect and him then and there estopped and forbarred from entrie into his said landes and tenementes in Allwood street aforesaid and him your said subiect sett vppon and evill entreated chasing your said subiect with stones from the premisses threatening to stabbe him your said subiect and to see the insyde of your said subiectes carcasce and to massacre him your said subiect yf your said subiect should but offer to enter into anye parte of the premisses outragiously sweareinge voweinge and protestinge with manye deepe protestacions thretinings and menacyng to kill murder massacre and cut in peeces your said subiect. by reason whereof your said subiect was constrained to retorne Backe and shifte for his lyffe and to escape their and eyther of their daunger violence and outrageous assaults At which tymes the said riotous persons vsed manye prowde disdainfull contumelious and contemptuous speeches and other menacyng wordes against your said subiect and made rymes <sup>^</sup>vpon<sup>^</sup> and against your said subiect and the same did libell abroad in the countrie abroad to the great scandall and discredit of him your said subiect And did geve forth that your said Subiect should neyther haue the money which he had paid for them or to them or the land which he had bought of them and to make coulour of their pretenses gaue forth that the estate of your said subiect was but condicionall whereas the same in deed was absolute and therevpon <sup>^</sup>&<sup>^</sup> by such colorable devises and practises entred for non payment of the residue of the some agreed to be paid And where in deed your orator was to pay the same with easie payment And doe vaunt and giue out that ioyntures were made of the promisses to diuers persons vnknowne vnto your said subiect respectivelie to the vse of the said Elizabeth Allwood and Anne Allwood before the conveyance made to your said Subiect And thereby and therevpon haueing thus defrauded cosened and rioteously and iniuriously assaulted your said Subiect have rimed and made slanderous invectives <sup>^</sup>and Libells<sup>^</sup> vpon and against your said subiect and published the same abroad in the contrye as aforesaid...

*Bill of Complaint in Best v. Traske* PRO: STAC 8/61/27  
single mb\* (13 December)

...

...<sup>30</sup> the said Iohn Traske<sup>1</sup> did abowte the monethes of Iuly and August last and at sondry tymes before and synce make compose frame write publish 5 and dyvulge abroad a most scandalous libell in vppon and against your said subiect and the same did singe publishe vtter and declare at ffroome and Nonny in the said countie of Somersett and in divers other places in the said countie with intent and purpose vtterlie to subvert and overthrow your said subiectes credit and the good opinion estimacion and reputacion which your 10 said subiect was in, which libell followeth in these wordes, Best optime which for his skill which he had studied for soe many yeares sought with foolish sottes to worke his will but now such fooles hath putt him in such feares that he is like to turne by weepinge crosse doe what he can he shall receive the losse, alas poore foole it greives me now full sore what to be cosenned and a 15 counsellor tow search bocrome bagges is there noe knavery in store well ever hereafter beware the clowted shoe by my consent bycause thou hast [p] plaid the foole putt on longe coates and goe againe to scoole...

Wherein the said Iohn Traske did not only meane and intend the said ffrowde and Allwood by and vnder the name of clowted shoe and that your said 20 subiect was by them cosenned but the said Traske hath also imposed traduced and putt the imputacion of knave[ry] vppon your said subiect, who hath dealt honestlie and iustlie withall men and especially with them the said ffrowd and Allwood in payinge to them and for them a greate some of money for their landes ... and also the said Traske hath laid the note of knavery vppon 25 your said subiect beinge soe wrongfullie abused and cosened as aforesaid by the said ffrowd and Allwood <sup>30</sup> and did delyver a copy of the said libell vnto the said Richard ffrowd which the said ffrowd did publish and (...)ing abroad to his consort to the disgrace of your said subiect<sup>1</sup> by reason of which detraction and derogacon from your said subiectes good name and estimacion and by reason of which said libellinge scandall imputacion publicacon and divulginge of the same libell by the said Traske <sup>35</sup> and ffrowd & oither of them<sup>1</sup> your said subiect is made a scorne amongst his neighbours and freindes, and hath lost his credit in his practice in the common lawes of this your highnes realme which offences your said subiect did for a good space conceale and geve 35 connivence till of late the said Iohn Traske beinge made acquainted by divers of your said subiectes freindes with his said imputacion libellinge and publicacon in forme aforesaid, that he should beware of such ill courses to scandall your said subiect by libellinge defamacion and derogacion from your said subiectes good name and fame made answere that the same his libell was 40

30/ derogacon: for derogacion; abbreviation mark missing

31, 38/ publicacon: for publication; abbreviation mark missing

39/ derogacon: 3 minims in MS

but an Epigram and did passe but for an Epigram from him the said Traske as the said Traske affirmed by reason whereof your said Subiect is vtterlie defamed discredited disabled dampnified and iniuriously scandalized to the vtter overthrow and subversion of your said subiect through the diuclish malicious and impious libelling aforesaid and the divulginge and publicacion thereof being derogatory to your said subiectes good <sup>^</sup>estate<sup>1</sup> name and fame his callinge and profession tendinge to your said subiectes euerlastinge hurte and hinderance And contrary to the lawes of this your highnes realme ...

1622

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 42, pt 1f 156 (19 December) (*Examination of John Browne, tailor, late of Frome*)*Taken before Francis Baber, esquire, justice of the peace*

Who sayeth that his dwelling is at ffrome, and that hecame from ffrome aforesaid wensdaie last, being the xvij<sup>th</sup> daie of december, and had occasion to travell from thence vnto the Cittie of Bristoll to speak with one Anthony Besser of Bristoll aforesaid a musition for that this *examinat* vnderstood, that the said Besser wanted one to ioyne in Consort with him, this Christmas tyme, and therefore went to Bristoll to see if he could gett himself in with the said Besser/ And beinge chardged with the ffelonious takinge of one greene saye Apron and one *pare* of greene yarne Stockins, beinge the goodes of William Brathead of Heigh littleton in the said county Husbandman/ this *examinat* sayth that as he came <sup>^</sup>from<sup>1</sup> ffrome to travell to the City of Bristoll as aforesaid [this *examinat* sayth] that he went through the backside of the said William Brathead and that he tooke vpp the said Greene saye apron and the said greene yarne Stockyns, hard by the footepath in the said Backside and being further demaunded, whether that he acquainted any person with the findinge of the said goodes, sayeth that he acquainted none therewith, but only a workman of Mr Brittyns of Heigh littleton aforesaid, to whom he offered the said greene saye Apron to sell, but for the Stockyns he sayeth that he intended to weare them himself

(signed) Francis Baber



1624

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 240

f 162 (26 October)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Robert Withers, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public and registrar* 5

...

Officium domini contra Richardum Punfeild

Denunciatur domino iudicanti quod notatur de incontinentia cum Letticia Ellice <sup>^</sup>[alias Edgell] de eadem. That they haue frequented eache others companie verie suspiciouslie of incontinent lief togeathers, in soe much, that there is a songe made vpon them Ac quod desuper laborat publica vox, et fama ./. Vernon Citatus fuit per eundem 22<sup>o</sup> die Octobris instantis ad effectum super quo fidem fecit &c. Quo die facta preconizacione predicti Punfeild, & non (blank) 10 15

ovembrii]  
mmunicatio

Officium domini contra Leticiam Ellice

Pro eodem delicto

ovembrii

Quesita fuit per eundem eodem die &c. Quo die dominus decrevit. (blank) 20

1636

**Quarter Sessions Roll** SRO: Q/SR 75

f 14\* (3 October) (Examination of Henry Oarme the younger of Marston Bigot, tailor) 25

*Taken by Robert Hopton, esquire, justice of the peace*

...

he saith that about the depest of the night [this last night] he and Iosseph Oarme his brother beinge abroad at playinge with Instrume(...) wherin he hath Skill, at the house of Richard Sadler of the parish of ffrume and Cominge homwards to his ffathers house where he duth dwell, There were in the way 5 gise, which [(.)] Gisse went before this examine and his said brother... 30

...

f 15 (Examination of Joseph Oarme of Marston Bigot, brother of Henry) 35

...

he saith that vpon Saturday last in the [v(...)ge] Euninge, he and his Brother henry Oarme went with theyre [Crouds] [Instrmtt] a Base viall and a Treble, [and] to Richard Sadlers howse to play and Came thether about 7 of the Clock 40

30/ Instrume(...): edge of leaf decayed

in the lueninge and played there [and played there] allmost a quarter of ane hower, and then came directly homwards towards his ffathers <sup>^</sup>[house] his said brother and he together...

...

## GLASTONBURY

1428-9

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/gla.j. 4/1/7  
single mb\* (*Revenues of the office*)

...

...Et de viij. s. *receptis* de Willelmo Deor. (*blank*) & socijs suis ludentibus in festo Natalis Domini. Et de xxvj. s. viij. d. *receptis* de Waltero Brewderer & socijs suis ludentibus in villa (media e)state....

...

1500-1

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/gla.j. 4/1/35  
mb 1 (*Receipts*)

(Idem...) xxxiiij s. x d. *receptis* de Iohanne Geffreys pro I croke vendito de Chalkewyll et de viij li. [vij s. viij d.] *receptis* (per R)obertum Hooede et parochianos...

mb 2 (*Expenses for rebuilding church pews*)

...

...In diueris clepyd grotes venditis per vnciam de pecunijs *receptis* [per vnciam] pro la cokes et Robyn Hooede xxiiij s. iiiij d. In vna tunica emptā pro Robyn Hooede xiiij s....

...

mb 3 (*Necessary church expenses*)

... In expensis factis per Magistrum Hampton in die corporis christi pro les pagettes cum I play in la belhay vj s. viij d. ...In factura vnus pare caligarum cum la lynnyng pro Robyn Hooede viij d....

...

14/ (media e)state: so read by Daniel; now only partly legible

21/ (Idem...): so read by Daniel; now torn away further

22/ (per R)obertum: so read by Daniel; now partly torn away

1534

*Duties of Abbey Organist* PRO: E.135 2/31

single mb\* (10 August)

- C This Indenture made the tenth dey of auguste the xxvj<sup>th</sup> yere of the reign of 5  
 our Soueraign lorde kyng henry the viij<sup>th</sup> betwyne the right Reuerend ffader  
 in gode Richard Whityng abbott of the Monastery of our blessid lady of  
 Glastyngbury & the Couent of the same yn the Countye of Somersett of the  
 oon partie and Iames Renynger of Glastyngbury foreseid yn the seide Countye  
 Syngyngman of the other partie witnesith that the seide Iames Renynger 10  
 hath Couenantid & grauntid & aggreid and by thies presentes Couenantith  
 grauntith & aggreith to serue the seyde reuerend fader & Couent & their  
 Successours yn the Monastery of Glastyngbury fore seide yn his facultie of  
 Syngyng & playng vpon the Organes terme of his lyfe as yn deyly seruices of  
 owre lady keepyng yn the Chappell of our blessid lady yn Glastyngbury fore 15  
 seid as deyly Matens Masses yeven songes Complens anteymes & all other  
 devyne seruices as hath ben accostomably vsid to be songen yn the seid Chapell  
 of our blessid lady of Glastyngbury by fore the tyme of thies Couenantes  
 and to do seruice yn syngyng & playing vpon the Organs yn the high quier  
 of Glastyngbury fore seid yn all & almaner suche festes & festyval deydes <sup>as</sup> 20  
 hath ben yn leke tymes passid vsid & accostomyd ther and yn leke wise to  
 serue the seid Reuerend ffader and his successourz with songis & playng yn  
 Instrumentes of Musyke as yn the tymes of Cristemas and other sesons as  
 hath ben heretofore vsid & accostomed & at any other tyme or tymes when  
 the seide Iames Renynger schalbe thervnto requyred by the seide reuerend 25  
 ffader his Successourz or assignes and farther the seide Iames Renynger  
 Couenantith grauntith & aggreith to Instructe and teche sixe chyl dren always  
 at the pleasure of the seide Reuerend fader or his Successourz for the Chappell  
 of our blessid lady in Glastyngbury sufficiently lafully & Melodyously with  
 all his dyligence in pricke songe & and descaunte of the whiche sixe Chyldren 30  
 two of theym yerly to be sufficyently Instructid and taughte by the seid Iames  
 Renynger yn playng at the Organes by the space of two yers the seide two  
 Chyldren to be always chosen at the pleasure of the seid Reuerend fader &  
 his Successourz whiche he or they shall thynke to be most apte therto. So that  
 the ffrendes of the seide two Chyldren wolbe bounde yn sufficyent bondes 35  
 that the seide two Chyldren and euery of theym schall serue the seide Reuerend  
 fader & his Successourz yn syngyng & pleyng at the Organes deyly yn the  
 seid Chappell of our lady & high quier of the Monastery of Glastyngbury  
 afore seide & other tymes of the yere yn Maner & forme as ys afore rehersid  
 by the space of sixe yers nexte ensuyng the seide two yers of theyre techyng 40  
 yn syngyng & pleyng, and the seid Reuerend fader & his Successourz schall  
 fynde the seide Iames Renynger Clauyngcordes to teche the seid two Chyldren  
 to pley vpon ffor the whiche seruice well & trewly so to be don The seid

Reuerend fader & Couent Couenantith and grauntith to the seide Iames Renynger duryng his lyfe as well yn Sykenes as yn helthe ten powndes of lauffull money of Englund aswell for his Stypendy as for his mete & drynke at fower princypall termes of the yere by equall porcyons at the right reuerend fader is Checker of receyte yn Glastyngbury to be taken and receyvid and also oons yn euery yere his lyuery Gowne or elles thritteyn shillynges & fower pens yn money for the seide gowne. always at the pleasure and eleccyon of the seid reuerend fader and his Successourz. also two lodes of wodde brought home to the seide Iames Renynger his house or Chambur and his howse rent fre or els xiiij s. iiij d. by the yer for it<sup>1</sup> Provydid always that yf it happen the seid Iames Renynger to be taken vp by vertewe of any of the kynges Commyssyons or by any other by his auctoryte to serue his grace that yf the same[s] Iames<sup>1</sup> Renynger cum to Glastyngbury agayne withyn oon yere and oon dey then next folloyng and so from thens forthe do his dylygent seruice yn syngyng and playng at Organes & techyng of Chyldren at altymes & yn euery thyng accordyngly yn maner & forme as is afore rehersid that then he to haue his perpetuyte agayne without any Interrupcion or lett and also yf it happen the seid Iames Renynger not to do his dylygence yn techyng & Instructyng of the seid sixe Chyldren as yn syngyng & playng as is byfore rehersid to the pleasure of the seide Reuerend fader or his Successourz. Or elles yf it happen the seid Iames to be seke or aged. so that he cannott well & dylygently Instructe & teche the seide Chyldren that then it shalbe lawfull to the seid reuerend fader & his Successourz to abate of of the seide ten powndes for the techyng & instructyng of the seide syxe Chyldren yerly cliij s. iiij d. In witnes wherof to the oon parte of thies present Indenturis remaynyng with the seid Iames Renynger the afore seid Reuerend fader Richard Whityng abbott of the fore seid Monastery of Glastyngbury & Couent of the same haue putt theire Couent Seale. and to the other parte [of] remayng with the forseid reuerend ffader & couent the forseid Iames Renynger hath putt his Seale yeven at Glastyngbury fore seid the dey & yere above seide.:

1538-9

*Abbey Obedientiaries' Accounts* PRO: SC 6 Henry VIII/3118  
mb 12\* (*Mead-keeper's accounts*) (*External expenses*)

...

...In donis datis Clericis sancti Nicholai .iiij d....

...

mb 20\* (*Hosteler's account*) (*External expenses*)

...

In *cervisia* villan' vino & alijs expensis factis super Clericos sancti Nicholai  
.x d....

...

5

1553

*Will of Henry Cornyshe* PRO: PROB 11/40

f 42\* (7 April; proved 7 February 1557/8)

...

10

...Otherwise I geave the whole to Margaret Cornyshe my wif *with* all other  
my goodes & Cattalles whatsoever they be being not to fore bequested. Whome  
I make my soole executrice of this my present testament and last wille to  
occupye and distribute aswell to my sonne Henrye Cornyshe, to whome I  
geve all my bookes and twoo Lutes...

15

...

1580

*Official Principal's Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 64

f [15]\* (17 June)

20

*Proceedings of the court held in Wells Cathedral before Walter Bower, cleric and  
canon residentiary, surrogate judge, in the presence of John Bishop, Jr, notary public  
and deputy registrar*

...

25

Officium domini contra Edwardum Cooper et Thomam Nicholes gardianos  
the regester booke is not kept according as yt ought to be and they kept the  
church ale vppon the saboth daie with the Morysh daunce coming into the  
church

moniti fuerunt ad comparendum istis die et loco ad audiendum vlteriore  
voluntatem domini °facta preconisatone &c dominus pronunciauit &c et in  
penam [exco] suspensionis stet in proximum°

30

1584

*Official Principal's Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 90

f [16v]\* (20 November)

35

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before John Daye,  
LLD, vicar general, in the presence of Thomas Bartlett, notary public*

*Responsiones personales Willelmi  
Appowell clerici vicarij de Merston  
facte articulis ex officio mero contra eum ministratis sequuntur*

Ad primum articulum [respondet] et scedulam respondet that he was in [Conu  
wells] Glaston at the signe of the Harte in Ianuary aboute ij yeares since &  
confesseth that there was poppett playenge et aliter non credit articulum et  
scedulam esse verum in aliquo

...

***Bishop's Court Deposition Book*** SRO: D/D/Cd 20  
f 15\* (10 December) (Deposition of William Marchant of Queen Camel, merchant,  
aged 34)

...

Super secundo deponit eundem esse verum et reddendo causam scientie sue  
dicit et deponit that he was personally presente in the house articulated  
together with one Edward [Stonninge] Stone [when and wher] [aboute] at the  
tyme of the sessions <sup>18/</sup> in the night season<sup>1</sup> about a xij monethes since. vt modo  
recolit et tempus et diem aliter perfecte non recordatur And then and ther sawe  
the articulated William Appowell put his hande vnder the Coates of one woman  
beinge then and ther presente standinge vppon a forme but bye name this  
deponent knoweth not And the Cause of all ther beinge ther was to see puppet  
players which was then and ther ahandlinge et aliter nescit deponere./

Super tertio deponit eundem esse verum: for that he this deponent was in the  
parlor and sawe the minstrells playinge and the articulated william Appowell  
then and ther dancinge with diuers women whose names this iurate knoweth not  
and at the ende of the dances he kissed them vt dicit et aliter nescit deponere./  
Super quarto deponit That the articulated william Appowell at that tyme <sup>21/</sup> &<sup>1</sup>  
while some parte of the puppett playinge was, was in the parlor of the said  
house with one hawkes wief of Glaston<sup>22/</sup> sittinge by the ffier ther and havinge  
a Candle burninge ther & almoste spent but to what ende they did soe sitt  
ther this deponent knoweth not./

f 16\* (Deposition of Edward Stone of Queen Camel, aged 20)

...

Super secundo deponit that aboute a xij monethe agone vt modo recolit et  
tempus aliter perfecte non recordatur this deponent was personally presente  
in the house articulated to gether with william marchant his preconteste

18/ vt: written over as

21/ standinge vppon a forme: written in left margin and marked for insertion here

22/ And: written over the

31/ & almoste spent: written in left margin and marked for insertion here

beholdinge puppitt players which was then in the said house, wher and when he saw the articulated *william* Appowell beinge then and ther *presente* puttinge his hand vnder the Coates of Certeine woman standinge vppon a benche ther and beholdinge also the puppittes then and ther playinge but the name of the woman this deponent knoweth not./ et *aliter* nescit deponere./

5

*Super tertio* deponit That at the tyme and place aforesaid he [sawe the articulated *william*] this deponent was personally *presente* wher and when he sawe and hard the said *william* Powell request a minstrell that plaied one a tabret to *Comme* in to the parlor of the said house to play ther who at his request did so And then the said *William* Appowell then and ther daunced with diuers

10

women that were then and ther *presente* with him et *aliter* nescit deponere./ *Super quarto* <sup>^</sup>[et quinto] deponit That at the said tyme and in the same place [after the dauncinge was donne this deponent] while the puppett playinge was in the hall or while some parte of it was the articulated *william* Powell was in the parlor <sup>^</sup>[of the said hows] with one hawkes his wief sittinge by the fiar

15

there et reddendo *causam scientie* sue dicit that as by Chaunce this deponent did looke in to the parlor he sawe them sittinge ther by the fier as aforesaid and that when diuers 'other' persons were at the doore Mindinge to *Comme* in, he the said *william* Powell percevinge it, Conveyed the said woman out at a backe doore of the said parlor. et *aliter* nescit

20

## 1593

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 97

ff [230v-1]\* (31 July)

25

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Bruton parish church before Gilbert Boorne, LL.D, in the presence of Robert Owen, notary public and deputy registrar*

...

*Officium domini contra* <sup>^</sup>[henricum] Hatch de eadem

30

for dauncinge att service tyme

Launcellet./ citavit eum personalitet xxviii<sup>o</sup> Iulij super quo fecit fidem &c

*Officium domini contra* Robertum Parker

*Similiter*./

35

Quesitus 29. per Launcellet/ vijs et modis in proximum<sup>o</sup> deliuered Lancellet<sup>o</sup>

*Officium domini contra* Willelmum Parker de eadem

*Similiter*.

*Similiter* vt in actu contra Hatch quo ad certorium

40

<sup>o</sup>*Similiter* in omnibus<sup>o</sup> delivered Lancellet<sup>o</sup> |

*Officium domini contra Willelmum Coombe de eadem*  
*Similiter.*

*Citatus per Launcellet 29<sup>o</sup> Iulij super quo fecit fidem./*

*Tunc facta preconizacione etc. et non comparendo etc. dominus pronuntiavit*  
*eum contumacem reservata eius pena in proximum.*

5

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Blanchard de eadem*  
*Similiter.*

*Quesitus per Launcellet 28 Iulij super quo die fecit fidem °vijs et modis in*  
*proximum° °deliuered lancellet°*

10

...

Wells

*Officium domini contra Robertum Mayne de eadem minstrell*  
*for playenge at Glaston' att the tyme of divine service*  
*Lancellet °citetur in proximum° °deliuered launcellet°//*

15

f [231v]\*

...

*Officium domini contra Walterum Leakey de eadem*  
*for dauncinge at service tyme.*

20

*Vijs et modis erga hunc diem. Citatus iuxta tenorem eiusdem decreti super quo*  
*fecit fidem/ Tunc comparuit dictus Leykey cui dominus obiecit detectionem quam*  
*fassus est esse veram vnde dominus iniunxit ei penitenciam publicam modo et*  
*forma sequentibus* <sup>^</sup> *[peragendum]* <sup>1</sup> *viz that on sonday next [he] at the tyme of*  
*devyne service he shall openly confesse his faulte et ad certificandum in proximo*

25

...

## 1614

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 29

f 35\* (17 August)

30

*Presentment of constables for the town and the Twelve Hides, made at Chard assizes*

...

*Item they do present, that Lewys Cavill, a pyper, was whipped in Glaston' the*  
*ix<sup>th</sup> of Iune, and sent vnto dorington, in Somersett, the place of his aboade.*

35

## 1617

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 27, pt 1

f 79\* (20 July)

40

An order made the xx<sup>th</sup> daie of Iuly anno domini 1617 for and



concerning a base childe begotten on the boddie of Katheren  
 Chauker by *Nicholas* Ruddock the reputed father thereof by  
 Robert write doctor of devinitie and *Thomas* Sowthworth  
 Esquier two of his Maiesties Iustices of peace in the said countie.

5

Inprimis it is ordered That *Nicholas* Ruddock shall paie viij d. weekly from  
 the birth of the Child vnto this daie and from henceforward viij d. a weeke  
 vntill the Child shalbe of age fitt to be bound an Apprentize./

Item it is further ordered That vj d. deducted out of the said viij d. weekly 10  
 aswell for the time past as the time to Come shalbe paid to the said Katheren  
 for and towardes the relief the base child and thother ij d. aswell for the time  
 past as the time to come to be paid to the overseers of the poore of the parishe  
 of *Sainct* Iohns in Glaston' for the time being to remaine in the overseers  
 handes to make vpp a stocke for the binding of the said child an Apprentice 15  
 when shee shalbe of fitt age to vndergoe the same.

Item it is ordered That the said Katheren shall with the said vj d. weekly  
 maynteine and bringe vpp the child vntill the time aforesaid and to discharge  
 the said *parishe* thereof

20

Item it is further ordered That the said *Nicholas* Ruddock and Katheren  
 Chauker shalbe both whipped through the Highe Streete of Glaston aforesaid  
 vntill their boddies shalbe both bloody and that there shalbe during the time  
 of their whipping two fiddles playeing before them in regard to make knowne 25  
 their lewdnes in begetting the said base childe vppon the sabbboth day coming  
 from dancing.

Item it is lastely ordered That both the parties shall putt in sufficient security  
 to performe all the contentes of this order

30

This order was made for the relief of the *parishe* of St Iohns in Glaston in the  
 said countie

(signed) Robert wrighte

Tho sowthworth

35

6/ Inprimis: *in italic display script*

10/ Item: *in italic display script*

12/ relief: *for relief of*

29/ Item: *in italic display script*

**Compert Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 206  
pp 269–71\* (1 October)

...

*contra* Iohannem Stockes

Presentatur that he was forwarned for beating of the Drumme vpon the sonday and he woulde doe it in contempt/. Citatus fuit eodem die per eundem &c, Quo die °comparuit, et obiecto presentamento &c fassus est, etc., et habet ad agnoscendum eius delictum in ecclesia parochiali ibidem die solis proximo coram toto cetu post evangelium

16 octobris 1617. loco consistoriali episcopali wellensis coram vicario generali antenominato (blank)

15 decembris 1617. coram vicario generali &c in edibus magistri doctoris Rivett comparuit et absolutus fuit gratis quia pauperrimus etc./ et habet ad solvendum feodum dimissionis &c.

12 Maij 1618. loco consistoriali episcopali wellensis &c coram magistro Anthonio Methwin clerico etc surrogato &c comparuit et soluit feodum dimissionis etc, et est dimissus./ ° I

*contra* (blank) Daniell <sup>A</sup> Robertes<sup>1</sup>.

Presentatur That ye said (blank) Daniell and his son in law, Walter Hamlen and one Richard Presse did play on theire crowdes before the Morris Dauncers vpon the sabaoth day vp & downe the Towne and rownde the hie crosse Citatus fuit per Laurentium Hill mandatorium infra parochiam predictam 13 Septembris 1617. ° Quo die comparuit Ioanna Robertes in se assumpsit ad

procurandum eius uxorem ad peragendum consimile(.) penitenciam &c [mediante iuramento certificavit quod peregit penitenciam &c] introduxit certificarium &c in scriptis conceptum super peraccione penitentie &c, quo viso etc dominus approbavit etc, °

*contra* Walterum Hamlen

Presentatur pro eodem delicto. Citatus fuit eodem die per eundem etc Quo die °[comparuit] dominus decreuit supersendum fore &c ex eo quod est non vltra annorum etatem xiiij annorum °

*contra* Richardum Presse.

Presentatur pro eodem delicto. Similiter &c, Quoad certorium &c, Quo die °comparuit et obiecto presentamento etc fassus est &c/ et similiter vt in actu precedenti *contra* supranominatum Iohannem Stokes etc

6/ eodem die: 13 September 1617

6/ per eundem: Lawrence Hill, a summoner

25/ uxorem: for virum(?)

34/ annorum etatem xiiij annorum: first annorum is redundant

[6] °emanavit eodem °

°16 octobris °

°excommunicatio absolutus gratis/ °

°18 d. °

°dimissio/ °

°excommunicatio °

°16 octobris °

°6 d. tantum °

°dimissio/ °

stc t/

16 octobris *predicti* coram dicto vicario generali &c introducto *certificatio*  
in scriptis concepto super peraccione *penitentie* &c quo viso &c, dominus  
approbavit &c.<sup>1</sup>

*contra* Georgium Denham.

That the said George Denham with others daunced the Morris vpon the  
Saboth day vp & downe the Towne [vpon the Saboth] in & rownd about  
the hie crosse/. *Similiter* &c, Quo die °[&c] comparuit, et *similiter* &c  
16 octobris *predicti* coram vicario generali etc. *similiter*°

*contra* Thomam Barnerd

pro eodem delicto *Similiter*. &c quoad *certorium* &c, Quo die./ (blank)

*contra* [Walterum] ⁊ Edwardum<sup>1</sup> ffatt.

Hull vnus *gardianorum* dicit quod monitur Edwardus

pro eodem delicto. *Similiter* etc, Quoad *certorium* etc, Quo die./ °comparuit,  
et *similiter* vt *contra* *supranominatum* Iohannem Stokes etc./°

16 octobris *predicti* coram vicario generali etc *similiter* actum fuit etc

*contra* Wilelmum ⁊ Atwood ⁊ alias Hyett ⁊ [Atwood Toode]<sup>1</sup> [Toode]

presentatur pro eodem delicto; Citatus eodem die per eundem &c, Quo die  
°comparuit et *similiter*°

16 octobris *predicti* coram vicario generali *antenominato* *similiter*

°2 Aprilis 1618. in edibus *magistri* Roberti Withers clericici[us] &c *surrogati*  
etc comparuit dictus Willelmus Atwood alias Hyett in edibus dicti *surrogati*  
&c et absolutus fuit etc prius iurato &c./ deinde dictus Willelmus *mediante*  
iuramento *certificauit* quod peregit *penitentiam* etc alias ei iniunctam etc,°

*contra* Georgium Lock.

presentatur pro eodem delicto. *Similiter* etc, quoad *certorium* &c, Quo die./ 30  
(blank)

p 274\*

...

*contra* Robertum Curtis

presentatur for boreing of holes in the May pole vpon the Sabboath day.  
quesitus fuit eodem die per eundem etc, Quo die./ Executa fuit per [H]  
Lawrentium Hill *mandatarium* 12° octobris 1617 Quo ⁊ 16<sup>1</sup> die./ (blank)

25/ Willelmus: 6 minims in MS

37/ eodem die: 13 September

37/ per eundem: Lawrence Hill, a summoner

*contra* Richardum Squier.

*presentatur*. for vseing his bodily labour vpon the Sabboath day about the May pole, *citatus* fuit *eodem* die *per eundem* etc, Quo die °*comparuit* et *obiecto presentamento* &c *fassus* est &c, et *habet* ad agnoscendum eius delictum in ecclesia parochiali *ibidem* die *solis proximo* coram toto cetu post evangelium etc, et ad *certificandum* etc in *proximol*

° 16 octobris °

° [dimissio] °

° *excommunicacio* . / °

° 18 d. °

° *dimissio* . / °

16 octobris 1617. coram vicario generali &c, *comparuit*, et introduxit *certificarium* in scriptis super *peraccione penitentie* etc. quo viso etc *dominus* approbavit &c. sed quia recusavit *feodum soluere* (*blank*) °

p 275\*

...  
° *contra* Georgium Poole

*Presentatur* vt supra *contra* Richardum Squier etc. /.

Quo die *comparuit* et *similiter actum* fuit etc prout in actu *precedenti* *contra* dictum Squier. /

° 16 octobris °

° 18 d. °

° *dimissio* °

16 octobris *predicti* coram vicario generali etc *comparuit* et *similiter actum* fuit etc vt *contra* *supranominatum* Richardum Squier etc / °

*contra* (*blank*) Locke

*Presentatur* pro *eodem* delicto. nil. / nil / actum. /

nil. /.

*contra* (*blank*) Iefferies viduam

*presentatur* pro *eodem* delicto. nil. /

nil.

1634

*Henry Burton, A Divine Tragedie* Wing: B6161

p 20\* (13 May)

...

Example 43.

At Glassenbury in Sommersetshire, at the setting up of a May-pole, it miscarrying fell upon a child, and slew it, & it is reported that it was the Churchwardens child, who was the chief stickler in the businesse. Also when the May pole in the same Town, was again the second time a setting up, a fire took in the Town, so as all the people about the May-pole were forced to leave it, and to run to the quenching of the fire.

Example 44.

A May-lord of misrule, not far from thence became mad upon it.

...

**Archbishop's Visitation Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 297

f [173v] (9 October)

...

*Officium domini contra* <sup>h</sup>[Henricum] [Willelmum] Browninge

Similiter presentatur ffor beatinge the drumm in tyme of divine service holie

Thuresday to the disturbance of the minister &amp; congregation./

°18° Novembris: Anno domini 1634: loco consistoriali &amp;c, Glaston', coram

[mris] magistro Willelmo Hunt clerico, comparuit, &amp; obiecto presentamento

&amp;c, responder, &amp; negavit &amp;c, Vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad [agnoscendum

eius culpam coram toto post lectionem evangelij vestibus consuetis &amp;c, &amp; ad

certificandum &amp;c: Ac] &amp; habet ad purgandum°

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 294

f 142 (27 October)

...

*Officium domini contra* Thomam Boddie

denunciatur domino ludicanti [quod notatur] [That on] St Luckes daie last

past He with diverse neglected the time of eveninge prayer, and weare att

Bullbaiteinge./ Brokenburrowe./ Citetur./

*Officium domini contra* Willimum Tricke

Pro eodem delicto./

Citetur./

*Officium domini contra* Georgium Leight

Pro eodem delicto./

Citetur./

...

## HALSE

1604

**Quarter Sessions Indictments** SRO: Q/SI 8

f 7\* (3 July)

*Jury presentment for the hundred of Williton and Freemanors*

...

Itim we doe present that Thomas daniell of Halse butcher did tippell the  
xxvij<sup>th</sup> of Iuly last past <sup>h</sup>[at halse aforesaid°] without licens for ought that we

know [v]terius presentant omnia bene] °& had a bullbayting the day tyme & place aforesayde°

## HIGH LITTLETON

1617

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 27, pt 1

f 13\* (16 September) (*Information of Thomas Jones, vicar, and his son John to the justices of the peace*)

...  
Whereas Mr. Caple beinge one of his Maiesties Iustices of the peace hath bound  
ouer Robert Hill, Iohn Bedforde, and Richard Tanner to the good behaviour  
for diuers misdemaners and abuses comited against diuers persons, and  
esspeciallie against Thomas Iones Clerke, vicar of High Littleton in the saide  
countey and against his sonnes; The saide Thomas Iones and Iohn Iohnes his  
sonne beinge bounde to giue evidence and information agaist the said Hill.  
Bedford. & Tanner. doe now signifie vnto your good worshipps that they are  
verie leaude and Idle fellowes, comon hanter of Alehouses and verie often  
drunke esspeciallie Hill and Bedforde, and in their dronkennes often times doe  
verie moche harme, for Hill and his companie by night in theire dronkennes  
did teare & rent the towne-pound of Hallotrow, & neare that pounce did  
break vp or unhang a barns doore wher poore women were that night lodged  
& did fright and fowly abuse the saide poore women, and goinge vpp and  
doun the streete did crie Cookholdes Cookholdes as loud as they coude, And  
manie yates, stiles, and Bridges theraboutes hath byn vnchanged, torne, and  
ouerthrowen; And farther vppon the munday next before sainte Iames tide  
last, Hill & Bedforde all that day and night kept Revell route att the Inn in  
High Littleton, & then and then & there amonge other abuses, did, as it is  
commonly reported sett vpp one Iames that was of theire companie at the  
vpper end of the borde, and vppon their knees drinke healthe to that Iames  
their kinge.... And the saide Tanner being a fidler doth vppon the saboth dayes  
vse fidlinge at Inns and Ale housses wherby the saboth day is much profaned....

1620

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 231

f 218\* (14 November)

*Proceedings of the court held in the house of Timothy Revett before Arthur Duck, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

16/ agaist: for against; abbreviation mark missing

26-7/ the munday ... last: 21 July

28/ & then and then: dittography

*Officium domini contra Nicholaum Harte alias Blacker nuptum*  
*Denunciatur domino iudicanti quod attemptavit castitatem siue pudicitiam*  
*cuiusdem Mariæ Hedges de eadem./.*

That hee being averie lewde fellow, and many tymes grorying in his filthie, and  
 beastlie actions did openlie in an ale howse make his braggs that he had and  
 helde one Mary Hedges de eadem fast *per pudenda* shee the said Mary then  
 dwelling with William Collier of Highelitleton, and being [taken] <sup>1</sup> [reputed]  
 and commonlie taken to bee an honest mayde, and of honest behaviour./  
 That hee alsoe when hee is att an revell where dawnsing is hee will lye downe  
 att the mynstrells feete, and tosse vpp the maydens coats that bee dawnsing  
 as they comme a longe by him: *Testes* Alicia Eastmont de Highlitleton et  
 Iohannes Skidmore de eadem aut Camelie./ *Quesitus fuit per Willelmum*  
*Cooke. litteratum mandatarium* 10<sup>o</sup> die *instantis* Novembris &c *super quo*  
*fidem fecit &c Quo die comparuit dictus Harte alias Blacker cui dominus*  
*obiecit deteccionem &c ac eundem iuramento oneravit de fideliter respondendo*  
 &c ac monuit &c

## HINTON ST GEORGE

1609

*Compert Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 160

f [51v]\* (20 October)

*Proceedings of the court held in the parish church of St Mary Magdalene in Taunton*  
*before Anthony Methuyn, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe,*  
*notary public and registrar*

*Officium domini contra Hentricum Saint*

*Presentatur* for rayling against th(.) minister in the churchyard calling him  
 drunkard, and drunken parson, when he demand(.) of him his dues to the  
 churche

*Item* for going into the churche even to his seate with his hatt vppon his head  
 Item for keeping minstrells and dauncing in his house duringe the whole tyme  
 of diuine prayer vppon a sondaie

<sup>o</sup>*Citatus fuit per Robertum dinham etc 6 instantis octobris etc. Quo die reservata*  
*fuit eius pen(.)<sup>o</sup>*

24 Novembris (blank)

19 Iunij 1610. *magister* Anthonius Methwin clericus &c *surrogatus* &c ex eo  
*quod eidem est fideliter certificatum dictum Saint esse octogenarium &c*

3/ eadem: Clutton

4/ grorying: for glorying

6/ eadem: Clutton

31/ him: corrected from his

valdeque debilem et infirmum &c dominus dictum Sainte in persona magistri  
 [procurato] (*blank*) notarij publici exhibentis procuratorium &c pro eodem  
 &c absoluit &c prius iurato dicto (*blank*) in animam domini sui &c de parendo  
 iuri etc. Tunc dictus (*blank*) nomine domini sui fassus est presentamentum &c  
 et in se assumpsit ad procurandum dictum Saint ad peragendum [quamque]  
 quamcumque penitenciam per dominum in hac parte ludicantem in eundem  
 Saint infligendam &c vnde dominus decreuit quod si dictus Saint agnoscat  
 eius culpam die solis proximo in septimanam coram ministro, gardianis et 4  
 alijs parochianis, fidedignis ibidem iuxta formam schedule &c de peraccione  
 eiusdem certificet proximo die iuridico post quod tunc dimissus erit./

...

## HOLFORD

1588

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 80

f [120] (30 April)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before John  
 Daye, LL.D, official principal, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

*Officium domini contra* Thomam Shurte

hee vppon the Sabaothe daie beinge the firste sundaye in lente, disorderlye  
 misuse himself in carryinge of torches and other vaine toyes as to cause one  
 to Ryde vppon a Cowlestaf into the middeste of the churche which was don  
 because a neighbor of theires was beaten by his wif

Quo die comparuit dictus Shurte Cui dominus obiecit detectionem qui  
 respondendo negavit eandem esse veram, vnde dominus monuit eundem  
 shurte ad interessendum in ecclesia parochiali de Bridgewater die Sessionis  
 visitationis ibidem proximo coram eo, ad videndum vltiorem processum fieri  
 in hac parte./

recusat soluere pro actu

*Officium domini contra* willimum Brewer

Similiter quoad detectionem./

Similiter in omnibus./

*Officium domini contra* Henricum Emes

pro eodem delicto./

Simili modo



## HUNTSPILL

1618

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 203

f 163 (12 May)

5

...

Officium domini contra Willelmum Hackwell  
 denuntiatur domino Iudicanti that he on Easter even last past did receaue the  
 holy communion, and that presentlie after the communion ended in verie  
 prophane manner went to dauncing, and togeather with Ioane ffowler, and  
 Barbearie [G] Ouldeman of the same parishe & diuers others whoe had  
 receaved the communion that day aswell as himself daunced in the howse of  
 one (blank) Hooper of the same parishe to the scandall & offence of theire  
 honest, and well disposed neighbors./ [Ch] Spiggott Citatus fuit personaliter  
 apprehensus infra parochiam ibidem 11<sup>o</sup> die instantis [m] maij per Nicholaum  
 Spiggott mandatarium etc qui etc Quo die (blank)

1623

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 43, pt 1

ff 78–8v\* (20–6 April) (Petition to the justices of the peace)

20

May it please your worshipp to be informed with matters of truth concerninge  
 many grevances committed from tyme to tyme within our parish of Hun't's bill  
 which doe make manye of our poore people complaine, and saye That Iohn  
 Hooper the Typler is Lawles for when they com [(.)] to his House and call for  
 an ale quarte of his best drinke for a penny the sayd hoopper or his wife or  
 daughters will giue them Reprochfull termes and sweare he will not doe it to  
 [none] to any of them all and calles them Roages with other foule termes more  
 then be commeth him to doe And doth vsually sell his beare or ale in smale  
 cupps or cans, as is to be approved by many witnesses, and beinge lat<sup>e</sup>ly  
 complayned Against to the[(.)] Constable which is william Poope he sent  
 his man with Samuell Tuttel beinge one of the Ale Tasteres to fecth Too  
 pennyworth of the sayd Iohn Hooppers best drinke and he sent the Constabel  
 but Two wine quartes for Two pence ... And yet he vseth a warse Thinge  
 Then these for he hath vsed, for many yeares past to hold Bulbayting Twise  
 in the yeare And now of late yeares to haue A Bare beaten alsoe The first is a  
 cryed game one maye daye, the second is a cryed game one partinges Mundaye  
 for Then he knowes That our Hynes and serveantes are at libertye and some  
 of them he knowes will spend noe more money then the haue before they  
 depart his ho<sup>r</sup>u'se with drunkeardnes and Brayllinge at dyuers other sundrye

8/ Easter even last past: 4 April 1618  
 27–8/ to [none] to: dittoigraphy

32/ fecth: for fetch

tymes: And now by Iust Report There is not so little as fortye Bushells of Barley Malt brued by the same Iohn Hooper for a cryed game of Bulbeatinge and beare beatinge one Thursdaye next being the first of Maye: which is A Thing very vnfittinge vpon the scarcitey of corne And great prise which Remaineth with all which doe make many poore people complaine.:  
 These are therefore to intreate your worships fauoure and kind furtherance in matters of Iustice in preventinge his vnlawfull pretended practyce which he intendeth to vse on Thursday next and grant your warrant vnto our Constables That they and our officers may se it performed that this sayd Hooper doe sell his best drynke which he kepeth for his bulbaytinge by the quart Accordinge to the Kinges Mayesties law which now he Refuse[th] [(.)] To doe: Witnesses for breach of the assise William Varman and Marten Bodye th(.) xviiijth of Aprill Ralph Bester Iohn Bartlet l

I heare a generall complaint that the house of Iohn <sup>^</sup>Hooper of <sup>^</sup>Huntspill, is a place of riotous tipling, and excessiue drinking, and that to draw young people thereunto, and others which in these partes are Vnmeasurably addicted to that vice he causeth yearly to be proclaimed in three seuerall <sup>^</sup>Markett Townes at the least: such games as are by law prohibited: Yea many times vpon Sundayes, the Lordes sanctified daye of rest, he keepeth in his house Minstrelles or Crowders, to allure young people to dauncing but chiefly to drinking, there, and that sometime at Seruice time, (as I whose name is here vnderwritten) am credibly informed

Oliuer Ormerod Rector de  
 Huntspill

...

## HUTTON

1616

*Quarter Sessions Order Book* SRO: Q/SO 2  
 p 304\* (9-12 January)

*Order made at the Wells sessions before James Ley, knight, attorney of the court of Wards and Liveries; Maurice Berkeley, Thomas Bridges, Edward Hext, and John Horner, knights; Francis James, LL.D; and Robert Hopton, Thomas Hughes, John Farwell, Christopher Preston, Francis Baber, Nathaniel Still, Barnaby Lewis, James Bisse, Thomas Simcox, and Thomas Southworth, esquires, justices of the peace*

...

vppon humble suite & request to the bench on the behalfe of Nicholas Yeomans

Nicholas  
 Yeomans

a poore man whoe is a musitian dwelling with his wife & children in Hutton & hath lately travelled to the house of one Marten & other places not above 2 or 3 myles from Hutton aforesaid to such persons as sent for him without any long stay there, and did in short time after orderly retorne home againe as it is alleadged by himselfe, for which he is now like to be dealt with accordinge to the statute of Roges & vagabundes which to avoyd he hath left the said parishe & his wife and children, The Court conceivinge [as this case is] the said Yeomans (as this case is) not be within the compasse of the said Statute hath thought fitt & ordered that the said Yeomans (vpon his submission to mr Still one of his maiesties Iustices of the peace) be noe farther troubled ffor the said matter by the Constables Tythingmen or any other officer on this behalffe/.

...

## ILCHESTER

1607/8

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 37, pt 2*See Ilton 1607/8*

## ILMINSTER

1606

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 11, pt 1  
f 103\* (30 April)*Jury presentment at Ilchester sessions*

Iuratores pro domino rege super Sacramentum suum presentant quod Ricardus Luccoke<sup>1</sup> cognovit veritatem<sup>o</sup> nuper de kingesburie in comitatu predicto boutcher x<sup>o</sup> die Aprilis Anno Regni domini nostri Iacobi dei gracia Regis Anglie ffrauncie & Hibernie fidei defensoris &c Quarto & Scotie xxxix<sup>o</sup> existens persona otiosa vagans & incorrigibilis apud Ilminster in comitatu predicto & alibi in dicto Comitatu cum berelis Anglice with beares de loco in locum in comitatu predicto adtunc & ibidem vagauit & predictos berelos adtunc & ibidem cum canibus vapulabat Anglice with Dogges did beate. Contra formam Statuti in huiusmodi casu editu & provisi & Contra pacem dicti domini Regis Coronam & dignitatem

<sup>o</sup>billa vera<sup>o</sup> 40

...

1613/14

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 18f 83\* (14 March) (*Examination of Richard Pike of Horton, blacksmith*)*Taken before Christopher Preston, esquire, justice of the peace*

...  
 Who beinge demaunded where hee had that venson which vpon serch was  
 founde in his house saith that on the 23<sup>th</sup> daie of ffebruarie or neare there  
 about his brother brought into his house without his knowledge: and doth  
 vtterlie denie that he was acquainted with the killinge thereof. And beinge  
 also demaunded where he had the Crossbow with 2 arrowes with a racke to  
 bend it saith that his wife without his knowledge fetcht them of one Dorrothy  
 Masco seruante to Gabriell Ianson. And beinge farther demaunded wherefore  
 the bow was borrowed saith it was in defence of his house: Beinge also  
 demaunded whose 2 staues they were which were founde in his house saith  
 that thone of them was the staffe of a Morrice pike which vsuallie laie in his  
 house: and thother was a[.] staffe of Thomas Dunsters being left in his house  
 2 years synce. and beinge also demaunded how they became blouddie saith  
 it was with bearinge Carrion on them. Beinge farther demaunded [how they  
 become blouddie] to what vse those vizardes serued which were also founde  
 in his house saith that they were brought thither by his brother from Ilmister  
 and onely vsed about actinge of an enterlude.

(signed) Chrystofer preston

f 85\* (*Examination of Isaac Pike of Horton, blacksmith*)

Who beinge demaunded where he had the venson which he brought into his  
 brothers house neare about the 23<sup>th</sup> daie of ffebruarie saith that cominge  
 from Sedgmoore (where he had beene in busines for his brother) through  
 Illwood there founde a grizell mongrell dogg vpon a deare, of the which  
 deere he brought 3 quarters into his brothers house, and thother quarter and  
 the skinn beinge torne he left behinde and the dogg he left behinde also not  
 beinge able to take him. And doth vtterly denie that he was acquainted with  
 the killinge thereof. And Beinge farther demaunded where he had the 2 vizards  
 found also in his brothers house saith that they were brought from London to  
 be vsd about a stage plaie and protesteth that he neuer vsd them otherwaies.

(signed) Chrystofer preston

9/ brought: *for* brought it30/ there: *for* he there

# ILTON

1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 7

f 55\* (19 July)

5

*Jury presentment for the hundred of Abdick and Bulstone at Taunton sessions*

...

- 6 Item We present that Richard Wembridge of Ilton<sup>1</sup> husbandman<sup>1</sup> kept ale to sell  
& Bull baytinge to thuse of the said parishe the 5 of this Iulie./ contrary etc 10

1607

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 13, pt 1

f 85 (15 September)

15

...

*Iuratores pro domino Rege super sacramentum suum presentant quod Thomas*  
*1 cognovit<sup>1</sup> Nehellinge nuper de Odcombe in Comitatu predicto husbandman*  
*etatis xxiiij<sup>or</sup> annorum et amplius, ac Corpore sano valens potente atque ad*  
*laborandum habili existens nullum habens magistrum ac prorsus nesciens*  
*rationem reddere quo pacto (...) sue licencie acquireret, primo die Iulij* 20  
*Anno Regni domini nostri Iacobi dei gracia Anglie ffrancie et hibernie Quarto*  
*et Scotie Quadragesimo, apud Ilton in Comitatu predicto inventus fuit illicite*  
*vagarans tanquam vagabundus et adtunc et ibidem habens secum Taurum*  
*pugnatorem Anglice (a fightinge bull) racione cuius quidem tauri Anglice by*  
*meanes of which fightinge bull, & instigacione dicti Thome Nehellinge apud* 25  
*Ilton predictum in Comitatu predicto iisdem die et Anno quam plures persone*  
*ad numerum Centum personarum & amplius illicite & Routose cum prefato*  
*Thoma sese assemblauerunt & adtunc et ibidem inordinate et illegitime sese*  
*gerebant et prefatus Thomas Nehellinge tunc et ibidem se illicite gerebat, Contra*  
*pacem dicti domini Regis Coronam & dignitatem suas, et contra formam* 30  
*Statuti in huiusmodi Casu editi et provisi –*

vera

...

1607/8

35

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 37, pt 2

f 101A\* (13–20 January)

<sup>o</sup>Flagellatus et<sup>o</sup> Relaxatus

Thomas Nehellyng confesseth he kepeth three fyghting bulls with which he  
traveleth to such watches & other places as he ys hyred & sayth since Easter  
he hath bynne att Ilton <sup>1</sup>too dayes<sup>1</sup> att Bakers Churchale & had for his Bulls  
fyghting ther xiiij s. iiij d. & att Ilchester with Iohn Bowden att a watch which 40

he kept, and att Gregory Stoke with one Trystram Bale who kept a watch & had ther ix s., he was lykewyse att meere in wilteshire where he stayde too dayes with his Bulls & had xx s. for his paynes & was lykewyse att Sturmyster <sup>in dorset</sup> att Rafedowne watch where he stayde too dayes & had xx s. for his paynes & was also att Sherborne Churchale with his Bull & stayd ther one day & had for his Bulls fyghting x s.

°Flagellandus & deliberandus°

(signed) Edward Hext:

1626/7

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 58, pt 2  
f 174\* (9-12 January)

Concerninge the behaiour of Thomas Single, seruant  
to Thomas Roocke of Barrington.

- ...
- 2 In Iune last about St Peters daie, beinge at Merifeld to driue Cattle home to Barrington he told his Master that he would not but would see ye Bull baiting at Ilton if he died for yt, and soe did.

...

## ISLE ABBOTTS

1623/4

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 58  
f [26v] (27 January) (Deposition of Alexander Pytt, alias Pitman, husbandman, aged 36)

*Taken before Anthony Methuyn, STB, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public*

...

Ad detectionem predictam in vim Iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit, et dicit that vppon the eleventh daie of Maie nowe last past before this his examinacion (vt modo tempus recolet) this deponent, the detected Iohn Collens with Iohn Gibbs, William Elliott iunior, & Richard Golevard and a greate companie more of the parishioners theare vzt of Ile Abbotes beeing in the chauncell of the parishe church theare neere the communion table after evening prayer ended <sup>itt</sup> beeing a saboth daie theare beeing an accompte passed by the old churchwardens theare, & the said Collens, beeing one of the newe churchwardens chosen for that parishe, in verie vnreuerent manner spake as followeth vzt Wee will haue noe more rates heere, but wee will haue beare beateing, and haue the beare to stake, and make him roare, hee him selfe

then roeing as if itt had byn a beare att stake theareright. Et premissa deponit de suis proprijs auditu, visu, & intellectu, And that the persons abouenamed weare present heereatt Et aliter nescit deponere

...

5

## ISLE BREWERS

1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 7

f 55\* (19 July)

10

*Jury presentment for the hundred of Abdick and Bulstone at Taunton sessions*

...

- 3 Item we present that William Bicknell of Ilbrewers <sup>λ</sup>[miller] sold Ale and kept Bullbaytinge to thuse of the said parishe the 14 of Iune laste contrary to the statute inde editum et provisum 15

...

## KEYNSHAM

20

1583/4

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 17

ff [23v-4]\* (24 March) (*Deposition of Robert Batten, weaver and former churchwarden, aged 66*)

...

25

Ad quintum sextum et septimum deponit et dicit that there hath bein an old auncient custom within the village of whitechurch tyme owt of mynd and for these fyftie yeres last past of this deponentes owne knowledge that the inhabitantes of whitechurch have yerely from tyme to tyme vntill this sute comensed geven there good wills towards the reparations of the church of keins<sup>h</sup>am vnto the wardens of keins<sup>h</sup>am for the tyme beinge when they come vnto them for yt, viz. in the Christmas holidiaies at hogling tyme and then they geve some vj d. some a grote some ij d. some a penney some a white loffe some a browne loffe some beyfe some bacon some Cheese some eggs and such like euery man his goodwill accordinge to his habilitie yeldinge a cause of his knowledge he saith that he <sup>λ</sup>hath bein a parishoner [th] in kainsham by all the tyme aforesaid and hath knowen the church (. )ardens by all the said tyme to [have] receved [the like] the benevolences of the [parisoners] [inhabitan<sup>tes</sup>] 30 35

26/ an: 3 minims in MS

31/ beinge: 2 minims in MS

33/ penney: 3 minims in MS

[ster]

of white church as aboue said [he] <sup>1</sup>and <sup>1</sup>was <sup>1</sup>himself <sup>1</sup>churchwarden of  
 keins<sup>h</sup>am abowt xxtie yeres gon and then he did receve and collecte of the  
 inhabitantes <sup>1</sup>of whitchurch towards the reparation of the church of keins<sup>h</sup>am  
 such things as he hath before deposed of goynge from howse to howse  
 thorowgh the whole village and gathering theire devotions in maner and forme  
 as he hath before deposd of and farder saith that he hath gon to whitechurch  
 [diuerse tymes within these L. yeres] with other of the wardens a hoglin who  
 hath likewese gon from howse to howse there and gathered theire devotions  
 as he this deponent did in maner and forme as he hath before deposed of  
 diuerse tymes within these fortie yeres and they have paid and given euery  
 [on th] man hi(.) good will according to his hability without any contradiction  
 vntill this tyme but what euery man particulaly did geve he doth not nowe  
 remembr(.) as he saith otherwise then he hath before deposed of et aliter  
 nescit deponere

Ad octauum et nonum deponit et dicit that the articul<sup>at</sup> lones and Gaye have  
 had and possessed livinges by all the tyme articul<sup>at</sup>ed within the village [of  
 white] of whitechurch and have contribut(.) towards the reparation of the  
 parish church of keins<sup>h</sup>am yerely by all the said tyme vntill this suit was begon,  
 some yeres ij d. some yeres a penney and some yeres a loffe of bred yeldinge a  
 cause of his knowledge he saieth that he hath harde some of the wardens of  
 keins<sup>h</sup>am reporte and saie that they have had so of them as he hath before  
 deposed of and farther saieth that he hath bein him selfe a hoglin with other  
 of the wardens at whitechurch as the custom ys when he hath sein the said  
 lones and Gaye geve the like quantities in maner and forme <sup>1</sup>as <sup>1</sup>aforesaid  
 et aliter nescit deponere

ff [25v-6]\* (*Deposition of John Nethwaye, carrier and former churchwarden,  
 aged 68*)

...

Ad quintum sextum et septimum deponit et dicit yat the inhabitantes of white  
 church have tyme owt of mynde by common reporte and by the space of these  
 fyftie yeres last past <sup>1</sup>of this deponentes owne knowledg accustomed to geve  
 and contribute towards the reparation of the church of keins<sup>h</sup>am everye man

p 147, l.36-p 148, l.11/ hath bein ... aboue said: begun in left margin, continued in lower margin, and  
 marked for insertion here

3/ keins<sup>h</sup>am: 2 minims in MS

7/ diuerse ... yeres: written in left margin, marked for insertion here, but cancelled

10/ fortie: 2 minims in MS

12/ particulaly: for particularly

32/ common: 4 minims for m in MS

33/ of this ... knowledg: written in left margin and marked for insertion here



accordinge to his habylitie some iiij d. some ij d. some a peney some Bredd l  
 some bacon some chese some flesh ' & ' some egg (.) [some butter] yeldinge a  
 cause of his [know] knowledge he saieth that he this deponent was church  
 warden of the parish of kainsham abowt fortie yeres gon and then in the  
 Christmas '[and E]' tyme he went, one daie to Charlton and an other daie to 5  
 white church a hoglin as they terme yt to gather the devotion of the  
 inhabitantes of whitechurch and Cha[l]rlton towards the reparacion of the  
 church of keinsam and then he did [gather] with other of his neighbours  
 vsually goo from howse to howse through both villages and did collect and  
 receve of some iiij d. sommæ ij d. some a pennye some Cheese some bacon 10  
 some a white loffe and a browne and some fleshe ' of ' euery man accordinge  
 to his habylitie and farther saieth that the articulat lones father and Gayes  
 father dwellinge in whitechurch and one tybett and Lukens weare the best  
 contributors of the whole village [at that tyme] while thei lived and farther  
 saieth that he did like wise goo with other wardens of [g] kainsham to white 15  
 church and Charlton which did like wise collect and gather the like quantiteys  
 as he hath before deposed of and in maner and forme as he hath before  
 deposed...

1619

20

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 215

ff 105-5v\* (3 August)

...

*Officium domini contra* Willelmum Saunders

Denuntiatur domino Iudicanti that hee with diuers others going aboute the 25  
 towne with drummes, and gunnes, & wente to Charleton on the sabbaoth day  
 to fetch a may poale in the tyme of divine service about 8. or 9. weekes agon  
 Quesitus fuit dictus Saunders per Willelmum Cooke litteratum mandatarium  
 etc 31 die [instantis] Iulij. vltimi etc super quo fidem fecit etc l

30

*Officium domini contra* Galfredum Bayly

Pro eodem delicto/ Similiter etc quoad certorium etc l. Quo die similiter actum  
 fuit &c per omnia prout in actu proximo precedenti etc l

septembris

*Officium domini contra* Iohannem Iames

35

Pro eodem delicto Citatus fuit etc eodem die per eundem mandatarium etc  
 super quo fidem fecit &c l Quo die facta preconizacione etc pro dicto Iames et  
 non comparente etc, dominus pronuntiauit eundem contumacem etc, illius  
 pena reseruata in proximum, et continuauit certificationem etc l

septembris

...

5/ Charlton: *Queen Charlton*

6/ the': t written over d

15/ wardens: corrected from wardes

16/ Charlton: t inserted

1625

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 59ff [2-2v]\* (18 June) (*Deposition of Robert Cox, gentleman, former churchwarden, aged 40*)*Taken before Robert Withers, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Alexander Jett, notary public*

...

Ad decimum articulum materie predicte medio suo [(.)] iuramento examinatus deponit et dicit that this deponent hath hard itt crediblie repoorted by divers  
 10 <sup>1</sup>antient<sup>1</sup> Inhabitants of Kainsham aforesaid of which some are livinge and  
 some dead that for the space of thease threescoare yeares last past, and soe  
 tyme beyond the memorie of man [that] vppon St Steevens daie or theare  
 aboutes yearlie theare hath byn a custome vsuallie observed within the said  
 15 parishe of Kainsham aforesaid that the Churchwardens of the said parishe  
 for the tyme being have yerlie collected and gathered hogling monie of and  
 from all the howseholders dwelling in Charleton Regina and Whitchurche,  
 which Charleton and Whitchurche hath in former tyme (as this deponent  
 hath likewise hard itt crediblie repoorted) belonged to l the parishe church  
 of Kainsham aforesaid and haue performed all parochian rightes in the said  
 20 Church of Kainsham aforesaid as christnings weddinges and buryalls; And  
 that likewise at Easter yearelie the like custome as this deponent hath also  
 hard repoorted for all the tyme aforesaid hath byn observed and kepte by the  
 Churchwardens wiues of Kainsham aforesaid for the tyme beinge vizt. the  
 said wardens wiues vsed to gather hogling monie att Easter, as theire husbands  
 25 did aboute Christmas, And deposeth and sayeth that the same vse and custome  
 is att this present tyme observed and kepte by the churchwardens of Kainsham  
 [ & ] aforesaid & theire wiues within the said parishe, and to this deponent  
 knowledge hath byn observed for these twelue yeares space last past during  
 all which tyme this deponent hath lived in the said parishe and hath ben  
 30 two seuerall tymes warding within the said 12 yeeres of the said parishe of  
 Kainsham, and those yeares as hee was warden went a hogling to Charleton  
 and whitchurche aforesaid, att or aboute [Christ] St Steevens day yearelie; and  
 deposeth & sayeth that the said hogling monie hath byn and is imployed  
 and bestowed yearelie in & towards the repayinge of the parishe Church of  
 35 Kainsham aforesaid & in providing necessarie ornaments to the same belonginge  
 Et deponit et dicit that this deponent hath hard crediblie repoorted that Gregorie  
 LLewellen, Thomas Leamon & Richard Holbyn who weare Churchwardens  
 of Kainsham aforesaid in the yeares of our lord god 1622 & 1623 last past or  
 some or one of them receaved from the parishoners of Charleton Regina &  
 40

Whitchurch aforesaid the said hoglinge monie accordinge to the custome of the said parishe of Kainsham aforesaid for the said two yeares, and namelie from William Heyward the partie him producing: Et aliter nescit deponere.

...

5

f [31]\* (*Deposition of Thomas Bolter, husbandman, aged 54*)

...

Ad decimum articulum materie defensivæ predicte in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit et dicit that during all the tyme of this deponents remembraunce and soe as hee hath hard itt crediblie repoorted tyme exceedinge the memorie of man theare hath byn and yet there is a custome vsuallie observed and kepte within the parishe of Kainsham aforesaid that vppon St Steevens or St Iohns daie yearlie the Churchwardens of the parishe of Kainsham aforesaid for the tyme beinge doe collecte hoglinge siluer or monie from the Inhabitants of Charleton & whitchurch neare adioyning to Kainsham aforesaid ... Et deponit et dicit that he verylie beleiveth that in the yeares of our lord god 1622 and 1623 Gregorie LLezellen, Thomas Leamon and Richard Holbyn churchwardens for the said yeares or one or more of them collected and gathered the said Hogglinge monie from the parishoners of Charleton aforesaid; and espetiallie of and from the aforenamed William Heyward: Et aliter nescit deponere/

...

## 1625-6

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/keyn 4/1/1 25  
single sheet (*Receipts*)

...

Receiued at Charleton and Whitchurch by way of Hoglin(g)  
at Christmasse in mony and victualls sold <.....>

30

Received at Charleton and Whitchurch by way of Hogling at  
Easter in mony and victualls sold 0 6 3

...

## 1626-7

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/keyn 4/1/1 35  
single sheet

...

Received at Charleton and Whitchurch by way of Hogling at  
Christmasse in mony and victualls sold 0 15 <.) 40

17/ 1623: *underlined in MS*

29/ <.....>: *MS deteriorated*

32/ Easter: 9 April

Received at Charleton and Whitchurch by way of Hogling  
at Easter

0 3 3

...

1630

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 68

f [42]\* (30 April) (Examination of Thomas Bolter, husbandman, aged 62)

*Taken before William Hunt, cleric, surrogate judge, in his house in the presence  
of Matthew Peck, notary public*

...

Ad primum interrogatorium respondet that this respondent doth not knowe  
that anie parishener of the Inparishe of Kainsham did <sup>^</sup>[hoggell] in the yeeres  
1628 or 1629 or either of them. And sayeth that the manner of hoglinge [is]  
<sup>^</sup>[heeretofore hath byn] that the churchwardens of the parishe of Kainsham for  
the tyme being [yeere] with some others with them haue vsuallie [in the] on  
St Steevens & St Johns day yeerelie gon to whitchurch & Charleton to the  
Inhabitants thearof & soe collected thire benevolence towards the reparacion  
of the Church of Kainsham aforesaid: And sayeth that heeretofore in such  
theire hogling they haue vsed to singe songes & bee very merrie & haue good  
entertainment att such howses they went to: but now of late yeer<sup>e</sup>s they  
haue not vsed soe much to sing as they weare wont to doe: Et aliter respondere  
nescit//

...

Ad tercium interrogatorium respondet that this respondent doth not knowe  
[that] of anie other <sup>^</sup>[place or] places that the church[at]wardens of Kainsham  
[&] for the tyme being with some of the parisheners of the said parishe vse  
to goe a hoglinge vnto, but vnto [the <sup>^</sup>[now]] parishen] the <sup>^</sup>[now] parishes  
of Charleton & whitchurch, which Charleton & whitchurch by repoorte of  
antient men weare heere[vn]tofore belonginge vnto the parishene[rs] church  
of Kainsham aforesaid & members thereof, & in respecte of that they <sup>^</sup>[haue]  
vse to doe hoggell the said places as itt hath byn & is repoorted: Et aliter  
respondere nescit//

f [42v]\*

...

Ad sextum interrogatorium respondet that the father of the said william Heyward  
whiles hee lived did hold grownds that some tymes was Abby Land, & soe

2/ Easter: 25 March

32/ vsc: for vsed

with them his meanes att Charleton togeathers, which Abby <sup>λ</sup>land<sup>1</sup> grownds  
& meanes att Charleton [wi] the *said* william Heyward now [H] holdeth  
And sayeth that this *respondent* neuer hard or knew that the *said* william  
Heyward or his father before him euer yet paid in respecte of the same other  
then hoglinge to & towards the reparacion of the *parishe* church of Kainsham 5  
aforesaid: Et aliter respondere nescit./

Ad septimum interrogatorium respondet that Gregorie LLewellen & Robert  
Cox gentlemen the parties producent told [this *respondent*] in this *respondents*  
heereing that [that] william Heyward had offered both the *said* yeeres 1628/  
& 1629/ soe much monie as he was rated att towards the reparacion of the 10  
*parishe* church of Kainsham aforesaid <sup>λ</sup>for the *said* yeeres<sup>1</sup> in way of hogling,  
& not [par] otherwise: And that both the *said* yeeres the *said* william Heyward  
gaue entertayment (as this [deponent] <sup>λ</sup>respondent<sup>1</sup> hard crediblie repoorted)  
to those [the] of Kainsham that came a hoglinge to him, & afforded them  
good cheere & beere: Et aliter respondere nescit/. 15

ff [45–5v] (*Examination of William Browning, yeoman, aged 42*)

Ad primum interrogatorium respondet that hee doth not knowe that there  
was anie hogling the yeeres interrogated att anie the howses l of the In*parishe* 20  
of Kainsham, but sayeth that on twelfe daie last past [att nig] after euening  
prayer the Churchwardens of Kainsham vizt Thomas Leaman & Gregorie  
LLewellen with diuers other of Kainsham weare at mr Bridges howse in  
Kainsham and there had [a banquet knu] meate and beare provided for them  
& weare <sup>λ</sup>verie<sup>1</sup> merry this deponent being present att the *said* tyme, and 25  
sayeth that att the *said* tyme one mr matthew Check mr Bridges man paid  
vnto the *said* Churchwardens somme monie but how much hee knoweth not  
to the vse of the *parishe* church of Kainsham aforesaid [bu] for Mr Bridges  
Abbie Lands that hee holdeth in Kainsham aforesaid, but wheather the *said*  
monie was paid vpon the rate made that yeere or in way of hogling this 30  
*respondent* knoweth not: And sayeth that this *respondent* neuer went a hogling  
that hee remembreth & therefore cannot discribe the manner & forme of  
hogling/. Et aliter respondere nescit.

...

Ad 3<sup>m</sup> interrogatorium respondet that this *respondent* doth not knowe of 35  
anie hogling att all that was in the yeeres 1628/ or 1629/ onlie hee sayeth  
hee hath hard & beleiveth that the Churchwardens of Kainsham & some  
other with them goe a hogling yeerelie [aboute] in the Christmas hollidaies to

9–10/ 1628/ & 1629/: dates underlined in MS

36/ 1628/ or 1629/: dates underlined in MS

Charleton regina & Whitchurch to the Inhabitants thereof Et *aliter* respondere nescit/.

...

### 1630-1

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 65, pt 2

ff 131-1v\* (29 August-12 January) (*Memorandum to justices of the peace*)

...

August 22: being the sabouth daie my selfe with some others coming to Mansels house found there the house full of peopell drinking wine and beere 10  
knocking and making a noyse and fidlers playing to the Company before  
and during the Whole tyme of deuine seruice and sermon in the afternoone  
and when I should haue punished the fidlers according to the lawe they  
Intreated that they might be sufered to depart quietlie: & they would goe home  
to Bristoll & truble <sup>the</sup> towne noe further: whereto I rather granted and 15  
yelded for that the company gathered about me with there clubes and  
Trunches: aboute Eight a clocke of the same [night] daie at night coming  
thether againe with company to asist me I found there the fidlers againe  
playing & a multitud of peopell & taking with me the fidlers to punish then  
according to lawe as we went along the street cometh Nicholas whit theother 20  
constable and strooke the fidler vpon the shoulder and willed hem to git home  
to Bristoll wherby he escaped and returned to mansells (...)e & th(...) played  
[all] [in] the night: there being then a grea(.) comp(.)ney knocking & clamors  
disturbing the neighbours my selfe not daring to come amoungest them/  
witnis Iohn Bide Richard Allen I 25

August 23 being the next daie and Monndaie Iohn Bide of Kainsham mised  
one of his [men] sones and Intreate me to seeke hem & hauing sought hem  
at other places (not finding hem he Intreated (...)e to goe in vnto mansells for  
ther wee heird these fidlers playing being then 9 a clocke at night.) [to] I said: 30  
that I dared not with soe smale company enter in. I warent you saith he. soe  
in we went and passing alonge by the tapp house we sawe ther a multitud of  
peopell drinking and tipling. & going in to the roome whe(...)e we hird the  
fidleres plaie we found the doore locked which being opened we found a  
company at the table drinking & the fidlers playing. and requiring the fidlers 35  
to goe with me: there came in mansell the master of the howse whome I  
required in the kings name to ayd me: he answered me I will be merie in mine  
oune house & will mayntane them here and speaking to the fidlers saing plaie  
vpp: the fidlers then playing more earnestly then before and hem selfe Jumping

10/ Mansels: *Richard Mansell*

19/ then: *for them(?)*

22/ (...): *20mm hole in mb*

22/ th(...): *12mm hole in mb*

and leaping as if he had ben besides himselfe: the rest of the companey  
begening by his exampell to doe the licke. soe we departed in feare least there  
should haue foloed an vprore and some danger to our selues./

...

After the daie aforesaid Richard Mansell kept the fidlers in [the] his howse 5  
and such companeys [as and] at vnseasonable tymes vntill August 26. being  
thursdaie when as I suposed they had hird I was gon for a warrant

...

## LANGPORT

10

1611

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 169

ff 109v-10\* (10 December)

15

*Proceedings of the court held before Francis James, LL.D., vicar general, in the presence  
of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

*Contra* Thomam Phivian

One a certaine night hapning about six weekes sithence the said <sup>^</sup>[Thomas] 20  
Phivyan <sup>^</sup>[iunior], [Edward] <sup>^</sup>[Edmund] Dawe, and <sup>^</sup>[Millicent] <sup>^</sup>[Thomas]  
[Thomas] Phivyan senior togeather with Awedrie Turner, and George Aishelford  
of Langport being in the howse of the said Turner an ale howse most parte  
of the night bowzing, and quaffing togeathers in the next morning erlie one  
Iohn White of Langport aforesaid a carpenter coming in to light a candle, they 25  
[they] fower in contempte of the auctoritie of the church of England, and  
the iurisdiction ecclesiasticall within this kingdome dissembled a consistorie,  
the said Aishelford taking a cushion made it 3: corner wise, and sett itt vpon  
his owne head [and], and named himselfe to bee a bishopp, and the said  
Turner named himselfe doctor Iames and the said [Edward] <sup>^</sup>[Edmund] Dawe 30  
named himself Iohn Brothers the apparitor, and the said Aishelford or some  
one of the companie holding a bay leafe in his hand, The said Turner or one  
other of the said companie vrged the said White to sweare howe manie women  
he had laine withall besides his owne wief: And then a woman named Agnes  
Hurtland *alias* dunstone came in to helpe the said Turners wief to brewe, they 35  
dealt in like manner with her, vrging her to sweare howe manie men shee had  
laine withall besides her owne husband. Besides other such like contemptuouse  
behaviours to the vilifying, and contemning church auctoritie established,  
and ecclesiasticall iurisdiction practized within this kingdome: The said  
Phivyan or some other then presentt called to the said Turners wief saying 40  
*mistris Iames I pray till vs some ale ././.*

*Contra Edmundum Dawe*

*Pro delicto eodem in deteccione proxima precedenti* <sup>Λ</sup>*mencionato* *contra Thomam Phivian predictum etc: [Quo die] (blank)*

*Contra Thomam Phivyan seniore*

*Pro delicto predicto etc (blank)*

5

**c 1615**

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 24, pt 2

f 3v\* (*Articles charged against William Thomas*)

10

...  
Item he said that yf the Portreeve or bvrte cruste Constables, or anie [to] Cvkholdes of them all did Come into his house to apprehende one William Hayne whoe was often drvnke and did diuerse foule misdemeanors in his said house playnge vppon a Crowde & singeing filthie and vncyvell songs [to 15 the] <sup>Λ</sup>*in dispite and* <sup>1</sup>*terror [of the] of the* <sup>Λ</sup>*Constables* <sup>1</sup>*neare inhabitantes* and officers of the said towne he would frye them and Cut them to small peeces. [This proued (.)]

...

Item he said he would davnce with a paire of hornes and a Codpeece before 20 them all.

...

## LAVERTON

25

**1607**

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 155

f 90v\* (7 July)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before 30 Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Gay vnum gardianorum ibidem.*

ffor selling of ale, and keeping of play in his howse at divine service <sup>Λ</sup>*time* <sup>1</sup>*on Midsomer day now last past, And for keeping of dauncing on the same 35 day before his dore at divine seruice time. Gorway*

*Quesitus fuit 2 die instantis Iulij &c. per Willelmum Gorway &c./ Quo die dominus decreuit eundem citandum fore vijs et modis etc in proximum./*

...



## LEIGH UPON MENDIP

1624

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 240

f 119 (28 September)

5

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Arthur Duck, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

10

Officium domini contra Iohannem Prattant

Denunciatur domino iudicanti that hee, and one Henrie Nevell [of Stratton] with others beeing att Lie vppon Mendipp, did theare breake vpp a howse, & violentlie tooke a woman, or mayde theareof, and termed her to bee their beare, And that they rent her coates, & smock in peeces from her back, & that the said Nevell carried a peece of her smock vppon a stick about the streetes theare, and said itt was a flagg: And that one of them said that their beare was over heete, & must bee cooled, & thearewith all threwe a cupp, or glasse of beere in her bare tayle. ac quod desuper laborat publica vox, & fama ./. Seevyer Quesitus fuit per Christoferum Vernon litteratum mandatarium &c 27: die Septembris instantis ibidem, super quo fidem fecit &c, Quo die dominus decrevit (blank)

15

20

## LITTON

25

1594

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 18

f 78\* (13 August–25 September) (*Deposition of Richard Davies, vicar of Compton Dando, aged 63*)

30

*Taken in the presence of William Leigh, notary public*

...

Ad vndecimum deponit et dicit That the articulat Iohn huishe doth vse diverse times to play vppon a harpe and a fiddle, and likewise vppon a drome and soe hath vsed by the space of theis five yeares or therabout, [shewing cause of] Et ista deponit ex suis proprijs visu et auditu. Et aliter nescit deponere

35

...

f 82v\* (25 September) (*Deposition of Giles Earle of Hinton Blewett, yeoman, aged 42*)

*Taken in the presence of William Leigh, notary public*

...

Ad 11 deponit et dicit that he this deponent hath diverse times hard the articulat Iohn huishe to play vppon a fiddle and a[.] harpe and he hath seene him to vse yt diverse times [emon] in Litton and other places therabout/ And farther he cannot depose vt dicit/

...

f 86 (25 September–1 October) (*Deposition of Philip Bridges of Ston Easton, yeoman, aged 52*)

*Taken before Gilbert Boorne in the presence of William Leigh, notary public*

...

Ad 11 deponit et dicit, That he [hath seene & hard] [doth knowe] the articulat Iohn huishe to playe some times vppon a fiddle and somtimes vppon a taber, but for any other such art as is deduced in the said article or otherwise he cannot depose vt dicit/

...

f 90v (*Deposition of Anne Eglesfield, wife of Anthony Eglesfield*)

...

Ad 9 10 et 11 deponit et dicit That [she ha] the said Iohn hewishe is commonly accompted reputed and taken aswell within the parishe of Litton as in other parishes and places therabout to be a very poore man and not worth in his owne proper goods ere alieno deducto xl s. And [that] this deponent dothe verly belieue [him to be soe] and hath soe hard him to be comonly and generally reputed and taken, And farther she deposeth and saith that the said Iohn [d] huishe at, before, and sithence the time of his production and examinacion in this behalf was comonly and generally reputed and taken aswell within the parishe of litton as other places therabout for a fidler and such a one as goeth from parishe to parishe to play on his fiddle vppon revill daies and churchales And this the rather she is induced to beleve for that she hathe seene the said huishe soe to playe one a fiddle at Chewton [and Litton and other places therabouts] churchouse where this iurat dwelleth Et aliter nescit deponere

f 94v (1–21 October) (*Deposition of Anthony Eglesfield, vicar of Chewton Mendip*)

*Taken before Gilbert Boorne in his house in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

5

...

Ad 11 deponit et dicit That before and sithence the production of the said huishe in this behalf this deponent hath diverse times hard and seene the said huishe to plaie on a fiddle in Chewton at Revills and such like sportes and alsoe within the *parishe* of Litton Et *aliter* nescit deponere

10

...

f 97 (*Deposition of John Ridler of Coley, miller, aged 60*)

...

Ad 11 deponit et dicit That he this deponent hath diverse and sundry times knowne hard and seene the *articulat* Iohn huishe to play vppon a rebicke or gitteren or fiddell at his neighbours and frends houses in Litton to be mery and make pastime but in good and honest sort for ought this deponent ever hard or sawe vt dicit Et *aliter* nescit deponere vt dicit

15

...

20

## LOCKING

1612

*Compert Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 177

25

f 21\* (1 October)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LL.D., vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

30

*Officium domini contra Ioannam Robins*

Presentatur that on whitsondaie last *which* daie shée receaved the *communion* repeated a filthie songe in the churche yearde hijs verbis.

35

um facit  
l hutton]

mmunicacio  
utio

ebbruarj

Hide thie tayle for shame maide,  
hide thie tayle for shame,  
Thoughe you showe it to thy master,  
yet hide it from thy dame ./.

40

And vsed her selef verie dis[obedient]orderly there./.

33/ whitsondaie last: 31 May

Citata fuit *per per* eundem 29. septembris etc. Quo die °facta preconizazione &c, et non comparente etc, dominus pronunciauit eandem contumacem &c, ac in penam &c decreuit eandem excommunicandam fore etc./

10 ffebruarij 1612. iuxta cursum etc coram magistro Anthonio Methwin sacre theologie baccalaureo surrogato &c comparuit et absoluta fuit etc: Tunc obiecto crimine etc, negauit etc., et habet ad purgandum se 3<sup>a</sup> manu vicinarum suarum fidedignarum in proximo habita interim proclamacione &c./°

...

## 1621

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 38

f 64\* (6 September) (*Examination of Mary Vayly*)

*Taken before Nathaniel Still, esquire, justice of the peace*

...

Mary Vayly sayth that about six weekes since vpon a sonday in the eveninge whilst the company were dauncinge in the Churchyard shee felt her selfe cold, & findinge a whittle lyinge vpon the Church yard wall, shee putt yt about her, knew that Ioane Thomas (Samuell Manshipps mayd) had layd yt there, which shee gave vnto her before shee went out of the Churchyard./

...

*Information of Joan Thomas*

...

Who sayth that shee desyred Iohn Hyll to hold her *Mistres* Chylde whilst shee went to dauncinge, who would not haue the whittle withall, but bad her lay yt downe by hym, which shee [did] layd downe vpon the Churchyard wall close behynd hym. Mary Vayly stood by <sup>1/</sup>& answered yf noe body will haue yt I will, This Informer made her noe answere but whilst this <sup>1/</sup>Informer was dauncinge shee saw yt about Mary Vaylys shoulders

...

## LONG ASHTON

### 1636

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 75

f 80 (30 September) (*Information of William Dun, miller*)

*Taken before Rhys Davies, esquire, justice of the peace*

...

Whoe Informeth that Henry Crossman with others haue come by night and

1/ *per per*: dittography

1/ *eundem*: Richard Chipper, a summoner

throwne in this Informers Millpound bankes into the said Pound thereby to hinder the water Course to the said Mill and hath giuen bad language to this Informer and his wife to the breach of his Maiestis peace and therefore [th] prayeth the peace *against* the said Henry Crossman and for that the said Crossman hath Charged him to stocke the seruantes of [the] Mr William Coxe [by] and said that he kept bad order in his house by suffering mens seruantes to daunce and revell in his house which is false 5

## LUCCOMBE

10

1587/8

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 80

f [95]\* (22 March)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before William Williams, rector of Otterhampton and surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public, in place of Robert Owen, notary public and registrar* 15

...

Officium domini *contra* Robertum Parkinge 20  
for daunsinge & vsinge other disorderlie rule vppon the sabaoth daye  
Similiter °Similiter°

...

Aprilis

## MARK

25

1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 7

f 12\* (20 September)

30

*Presentments of constables and jury for Bempstone hundred at Bridgwater sessions*

...

Item we present that Edwarde Staplton of Mark in the Countie Afforsayed yeoman dyd sell drynck and kept A Bullbaytyng at marke Afforsayed the xxv<sup>o</sup> daye of Maye Last Paste contrarie to the form of the Statut &c. 35

...

## 1636/7

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 76, pt 2f 118\* (27 February) (*Examination of William Reines of Blackford*)*Taken before William Walrond, esquire, justice of the peace*

5

Whoe sayth yat vpon Marke Revell day last was Twelmonth being the xxvijth day of May 1635 he sawe one Mary Butcher sittinge in Marke Streat vpon a horse, and one William Andriw<sup>es</sup> standing by her, and talkinge with her, expectinge the comming of some Morris dauncers, whoe shortly after came, and when thay had ended ther dawnce, this examine and diuers others together with William Andrwes went into ane Alehouse in Marke, and after thay had bine ther a litle time drinking William Andrwes sayd vnto them, my masters, what saye, if I will goe and bring in a pretie wench to drinke with vs, which the company willingly consented vnto, and there vpon he went out vnto the aforesayd Mary Butcher, and brought her in vnto us, whoe stayd drinkinge in our company about one hower or there a boutes, and then we all departed...

...

20

## MELS

## 1604/5

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 138

f 247v\* (7 January)

25

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Hooper iuniorem*

30

That he vses to keepe evill order in his howse manie sabaoth dayes at night in assembling manie young persons to dauncing att vnseasonable tymes of the night, by whiche meanes theire daughter hath bin defiled, and wee feare yat somme other haue, or may bee corrupted, And having bin warned to giue over his evill practizes, they still continewe the same, so yat hee and his wief are commonlie suspected [fo] to keepe a howse of bawdry. Instrucciones pendent in filo, sub nominibus magistri Hill rectoris ibidem [et] Iacobi Curtize gardiani et Thome Sherburne etiam gardiani ibidem.

*Citetur in proximum.*

...

40

ff 273, 272v\* (22 January)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LLD, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

5

...

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Hooper iuniorem*

*Citatus fuit 20 instantis Ianuarij per Willimum Gorway mandatarium &c/*

*Quo die comparuit dictus Hooper, quem dominus iuramento oneravit &c de fideliter respondendo &c ac monuit &c Qui in vim iuramenti sui examinatus respondet that a sonne of this examinares having skill to make cithernes, & to play on them somme few tymes heeretofore theare haue somme honest youthes of the parishe in honest manner & no otherwise in the evening of the sabaoth daies, & that they haue not so donne but once sithence Christmas last past I was xij monethes. sed quoad crimen lenoc(.).nij &c penitus negavit eandem esse veram. vnde dominus (.).i inhibuit ne vltorius they maintaine any disorderly dauncing in his howse sub pena iuris, et iniunxit ei quoad crimen lenocinij &c ad purgandum se 3<sup>a</sup> manu vicinorum suorum fidedignorum in proximo facta proclamacione &c/*

20

*Officium domini contra Christianam Hooper*

*Citata fuit eodem die per eundem mandatarium &c Quo die comparuit personaliter dicta Hooper quam dominus iuramento oneravit etc. de fideliter respondendo etc. ac monuit &c. Que in vim iuramenti sui examinata respondet in omnibus et per omnia prout in actu proximo precedenti &c quem vult extendi &c dominus eandem cum simili monicione prout in actu proximo precedenti &c, eandem ab officio in hac parte Dimisit, casu quo dictus Iohannes Hooper seipsum purgauerit in proximo.*

25

...

## MERRIOTT

30

1617

*Court and Tithe Book* SRO: DD/TMP 8

f [25]\* (21 April)

35

The Munday (...) Easter weeke last, ymed(...) prayeres (being the. 21. day of Aprill) in the presence of (...) Cheslet & Iohn silfester then churchwardens, Iohn Goffe Iunior sayd in the Chauncell of Meriet to <sup>^</sup>me<sup>^</sup> Alexander Atkins vicar, that he was my better, if my Coate were of, then I the sayd Alexander

40

8/ Willimum: 5 minims in MS

13/ parishe: participle missing, probably danced

did repleye to the sayd Goffe, so thou didst abuse my father before Mr Pollett, sayeng that he was a Minstrell, and did play vpon his lute for a penney, then the sayd Goffe aunswered, that he did not say so before Mr Pollet, but he sayd, that I [ ] the said *Alexander* was a mynstrell and had played vpon my lute for a penney.

...

## 1620

*Court and Tithe Book* SRO: DD/TMP 8

f [21v] (18 July)

Anno 1620

Thomas smyth Church warden of Meriet, kepeinge a church Ale this yere, and haveinge bulbayting & beare baytinge at his (. )le, the twesdaye before saint Iames daye (being the xvijth day of Iulye) having the kepeing of the *communion* cupe, dyd greatly *prophane* the said cuppe, in bringing the said *communion* cuppe out to the beare stake while the [beatyng] beare was at the stake, and there made the companye to drynke his Ale howse beare in the *communion* cuppe, and [there] <sup>so</sup> made the *communion* cup to be a common drynkeing cup at his beare baytinge./ And brought <sup>out</sup> his Alehowse beare in the tyn pot, wherein wyne is caryed at the curch for the *communion*./

...

f [22]

...

+ Thomas smyth killed a calfe of his owne against his bulbeating worth xij s.

...

## 1637

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 76, pt 1

f 45\* (8 June) (*Examination of James Hooper, husbandman*)

*Taken before Robert Henley, esquire, justice of the peace*

...

Iames Hooper saith That a Vagarant woman a ffidler cominge to Merrott a playenge in the tyme of divine service there was taken and putt in the stockes by the Tithingman of Merrott aforesaid and be(. )ge afterwarde lett out without the privity of the officer this *Examinat* after the tyme of divine prayers mett William Hooper goinge through the Towne with the same woman sayenge vnto her come away for I will dischargd thee

...

20/ curch: *for church*

36/ be(. )ge: *partly obscured by ink blot*



## MIDDLEZOY

1604

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 138

f 131v\* (19 October)

5

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

Officium domini contra Iohannem Mayler

10

Novembris

That Thee 5<sup>th</sup> of August last one william Chepman playing vppvpon his bagge pipe in the churche porche in reioycing for the king the said Mayler did sweare most blasphemouslye to the greate dishonor of god & the place & the people theare assembled yat yf hee would not cease piping hee would teare his pypes./ [Quibus] Quesitus fuit 13 instantis octobris per Hugonem dinham &c Quo die dominus decreuit eundem citandum fore vijs et modis etc in hunc diem ...

15

## MIDSOMER NORTON

20

1603/4

**Quarter Sessions Indictments** SRO: Q/SI 7

f 120\* (11 January)

*Constables' presentments for Chewton hundred*

25

...

Inprimis we present Thomas Watter of Welton within the parishe of Midsommer Norton for tiplinge withowt license and keeping of dauncing on the Saboathe daie <sup>^</sup>v daie of Iune last past<sup>1</sup> at tyme of divyne servise.

...

30

1623

**Bishop's Court Deposition Book** SRO: D/D/Cd 58

ff [12v–13]\* (11 November) (Deposition of Ralph Gregson, rector of Holcombe, aged 50)

35

*Taken before Anthony Methuyn, STB, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

Ad deteccionem predictam in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit

11/ playing: otiose abbreviation mark on p

11/ vppvpon: for vppon

29/ <sup>^</sup>v daie of Iune last past<sup>1</sup>: interlineation wrongly marked for insertion after at

et dicit that in Summer last past was [twl] twelue monethes (vt modo tempus  
 recolit) neere aboute St Iames tyde as hee verylie beeleuieth theare was a  
 certaine bulbayting att Midsomer Norton on *which* daie the detected Iohn  
 Moore as itt is [(.)] *commonlie* knowne and repoorted amongst the *parishoners*  
 of Holcombe aforesaid came to the howse of one the widdow Woofford [n] 5  
 of holcombe aforesaid where the detected Ioane Harvie liveth and as itt is  
 likewise repoorted they appoynted all [to goe] or the most *parte* of the  
 companie *which* weare then in the said Widdow Wooffords howse to goe to  
 the said Bulbaytinge Wherevpon the said Iohn Moore went from the said  
 Wooffords howse aboute some busines of his [ho] owne *which* hee had in the 10  
 said *parishe*, and was absent for some space in *which* tyme the[re] companie  
 aforesaid as itt is repoorted went awaie to the bulbaytinge aforesaid: And then  
 the said Iohn Moore cominge to the widdow Wooffords howse againe found  
 noone of the howse att home but onelie the said Ioane Harvie excepte a  
 child or two one l of them Beinge a mayde of nine or tenne yeeres old or 15  
 theareabouts: Wheare the said Iohn Moore continued in the said howse [f]  
 as itt is [*commonlie*] repoorted <sup>^</sup>for the space of halfe an hower with the  
 said Ioane Harvie But wheather [itt they] itt was suspitiouslie of incontinent  
 lief or otherwise [this deponent] this deponent neither knoweth or can certanlie/  
 beleue or hath hard reported by anie of creditt in the said *parishe*: Et *aliter* 20  
 nescit deponere/.

(signed) Raphe Gregsonn

...

f [23v]\* (3 December) (*Deposition of Richard Treaser, husbandman, aged 54*) 25

*Taken before Robert Withers, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward  
 Huish, notary public*

...

Ad detectionem *predictam* in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit 30  
 et dicit that vpon the fife daie of August in anno domini 1622/ (vt modo  
 tempus recolit) this deponent, Gregorie Hippislie gentleman [this] and this  
 deponents sonne Iohn Treaser standinge together att this deponents strete  
 doare in Holcombe aforesaid [and talkinge] saw the detected Iohn Moore to  
 come vnto the widow Elinor Wooffords howse wheare Ioane harvie mentioned 35  
 in the detection lived, att the said tyme, and as yet liveth and att the said tyme  
 hee went into the said widow Wooffords howse wheare he continued for some  
 space but how longe this deponent certainelie knoweth not with the said  
 Ioane Harvie privatelie theare beinge noone in the said howse att the said

2/ St Iames tyde: 25 July and the week following

15/ onc: catchword at foot of f[12v], not repeated on f[13]

31/ 1622/: partly underlined in MS

tyme but onelie two <sup>^</sup>or three<sup>1</sup> smale children for that this deponent certainlie knoweth that the rest of the people of the *said* howse weare gon to a bulbayting that was then kepte att Midsomer Norton in the morninge of the *said* daie...

...

5

## MILBORNE PORT

1605/6

*Bill of Complaint in Walton v. Parham et al* PRO: STAC 8/291/12 item [3]  
single sheet\* (8 February)

10

...

... the sayd Iohn Parham and the sayd Sir Edward Parham about the midst of Iune in the first yere of *your* highnes Reigne p[ro]cured] with divers others <sup>^</sup>their<sup>1</sup> Confederates and all their ffrendes and tenantes popishe recusantes and Papistes procured most Rioutous and Routous persons in warrlicke mannor armed with musketes Calivers pikes Corsletes holbardes and other armor to the number of thre hundred persons or therabouts to assemble to gither at milborne porte in the Countie of Somerset and they beinge so vnlafully assembled by the procurment abetment and mayntinance of the sayd Sir Edward Parham and Iohn Parham in most Riotous Routous tumultuous and warlicke order then and their they marched and schirmished together in the sayd moneth of Iune afforesayd with trumpites sounded and drummes beaten and Ensignes displayed, and in such sort arrayed in Iune afforesayed the sayd Riutors Routours persons in tumultuous and warlicke manor with trumpetes drummes and Ensignes as aforesayd did march to the dwelling house of the sayd Iohn Parham in Poyntington afforesayd being tow myles distante from the sayd Milborne Porte wherby the abettment procurment and mayntenance of the sayd Iohn Parham and the sayd Sir Edward Parham the sayd Riotous and Routous persons did agayne in Iune afforesayd Rioutouslie and Routouslie and in warlicke manor with drummes and trumpetes and ensignes displayed then and their schirmished in most warlicke manor to the great terror of the Country to see such popishe recusantes to be exercised and trayned in such marchiall manor all *which* Rioutous persons were in Iune afforesayd intertayned and feasted at Poyntington afforesaid by the sayd Iohn Parham beinge a man naturally of a most sparinge mynd and all *which* entertaynement and feasting was served out by the sayd Iohn Parham in warlicke manor as yt besemed soldiors and marchiall men, where the sayd Rioutous persons with one aplaud after the end of their dyner with a shout protested that they would live and die with the sayd Sir Edward Parham or wordes to the like effect to the great terror and admiracion of *your* highnes lovinge subiectes in these partes ...

40

24/ Riutors Routours persons: *for* Rioutous and Routous persons (?)

31/ schirmished: *ch. written over k*(?)

the sayd Sir Edward Parham and Iohn Parham by their vnlafull abettment  
 procurment and mayntenance haue *procured* sondry other tymes tow or three  
 hundred Rioutious and Routious *persons* armed in warlicke manor with  
 muskites Calivers hobordes Corslettes and other weapons as well invasive as  
 defensive to be trayned and to skymishe with drummes beaten trumpets  
 sounded and Ensignes displayed as namly at south Cadbery in the sayd  
 Countie of Somerset in *which* skirmishinge trayninge and marchinge they  
 then and their vttered vndecent speches agaynst the grave preachers in these  
 partes therby discoveringe their inward intentes of hope or inward purpose of  
 chaunge as yt semed, and the sayd Iohn and Sir Edward Parham haue *procured*  
 and Caused sithnce your sayd highnes Reigne many great Bulbaytinges  
 Morishdaunces the sayd Sir Edward beinge one of the Morishdauncers the  
 better to gette the love and affection of the common people doe more delight  
 in such veyne Toyes then in matters of moment, and other great assemblies  
 to the number of five thousand people the chefe of *which* assemblies haue  
 ben the sayd Iohn Parham and Sir Edward Parham and other recusantes and  
 Papistes...

...

1606

*Answer of John Parham in Walton v. Parham et al*

PRO: STAC 8/291/12 item [2]

single mb (13 May)

...

...And as vnto the said supposed Ryott in the said Bill svrmiced to be  
 Committed by this defendant Iohn Parham and the said Sir Edward Parham  
 and others aboute the middeste of Iune in the ffirste yeare of the Kinges  
 Maiesties Raigne This defendant Iohn Parham therevnto saieth that in the  
 whytson weeke (as he remembreth) in the said ffirste yeare of his Maiesties  
 raigne the parishinors of Milborne porte aforesaide findinge their Church  
 and a bell or bells in decay made a Church feaste accordinge to the manor  
 of the Countrey for leveinge of moneyes to Repaier the same And therevpon  
 aboute the mondaye of the same whitsone weeke (as this defendant taketh ytt)  
 diuers of the parishionners of the same parishe to the Number of aboute 3 or  
 ffower score of all sortes maney of them beinge substantiall householders of  
 honestie and Credytt And amongste them diuers boyes and youthes came  
 togeather marchinge with flagges gunnes & weaponns in meryment after the  
 fashion of a Maye game towards this defendantes howse at Poyntington early  
 in the Morninge to invite and entreate him and his said sonne with some of  
 their Neighbors and ffrendes to come to their ffeaste and spende their money

for increasinge of there Stock to repaire their Church and bell or Bells which were then in decaye as in suche cases in Countrey *parishes* hath ben heretofore comonlye vsed for noryshinge of love and famylarite amongste Neighbour without any intention or imputacion of any offence to growe therby Towards the which stockes they supposed this defendant would willingly Contribute for that he had a good quantetye of lande or lyvinge in that *parishe* and therfore was of righte to be Rated and taxed towards the same reparacions, In which sorte the said Companye were Come within the Mannor of Poyntington aforesaid without the privitey of this defendant and before this defendant euer knewe or harde of theire Comminge And therevpon the Comminge downe to the Mansion Howse of this defendant ffor that a greate parte of them were verie sufficiente and honeste gentelmen and yeomen and this defendantes good neighbors and ffrends ... Neither was theyr abode Longe there, but they Returned home againe and came to theire owne *parishe* Church to morninge prayer as this defendant was Creadibly informed ...

*Examination of John Beaton, Defendant in Walton v. Parham et al*

PRO: STAC 8/291/12 item [1]

f 2v\* (19 May)

...  
To the xijth & xijth Interrogatories this defendant saith That the truthe of this defendantes knowledge touching this Interrogatory <sup>14/</sup>as neare as this defendant can expresse the same,<sup>1</sup> is, That there being in or about Iune last a Church Ale at Milborne Porte, made chiefly for the maintenaunce of the church there, and for a Bell there broken the same tyme, The youtnes & diuerse of the best <sup>14/</sup>of the<sup>1</sup> inhabitantes of milborne porte <sup>14/</sup>aforesaid<sup>1</sup> with drummes & other weapons, came in manner of a May game vnto the howse of the said Iohn Parham of purpose to invite him & his sonne Sir Edward Parham <sup>14/</sup>knight<sup>1</sup> & other their neighbors & freands ther about, thervnto, to theale to spend their money there, being that the said Iohn Parham had land within ye said *parishe* and was chargeable to all maner of duties & Paymentes there <sup>14/</sup>and this defendant further saith That within a few dayes after the said Sir Edward <sup>14/</sup>Parham<sup>1</sup> knight & his freindes mett with milborne porte men on the downes and there in merry & sportfull manier with drummes & Ensignes Gunnes & other weapons did [d] skirmish & sporte themselves a while, and afterwarde went vnto milborne porte aforesaid, and spent their moneys together at the said Church ale./ And other marching, skimishing, or trayning there, about the same tyme, or any other riottous assembly, armed with gunnes, pykes,

14/ they: corrected from there

32-8/ and this defendant ... Church ale./: written in left margin and marked for insertion here

haulbertes, drummes <sup>λ</sup> [beaten] or Ensignes displayed Or other feasting <sup>λ</sup> [the same tyme] then as aforesaid, this defendant knoweth not <sup>λ</sup> [of] Nor more, further, or otherwise dothe answere to this Interrogatory./

...

*Demurrer and Answer of Sir Edward Parham in Walton v. Parham et al*  
PRO: STAC 8/291/12 item [4]  
single mb (31 May)

...

... And as touching the Supposed Ryott surmised in and by the said Bill to be procured by this defendant, and the said Iohn Parham and others about the middest of Iune in the first yeare of the Kinges Maiesties Raigne, This defendant sayeth that in the Whitson Weeke as this defendant remembreth in the said first yeare of the Kinges Maiesties Raigne the parishioners of Milborne port in the said Countye of Somerset being the parrishe next adioynnyng to the parish of Poinctington where this defendantes father and himself did then inhabite together fynding their Church and a bell or bells in decay as was reported made a Church ffeaste according to the Manner of the County for to gett or gather some monyes thereby to repaire the same decayes and about the Monday in the same Whitson Weeke as this defendant now thincketh divers of the parrishioners of the partish of Milborne port to the number of about Three or ffowerscoore of All sortes many of them being substanciall howseholders of honestye and good Creditt, and amongst them dyvers boyes but noe popish recusantes of them as is pretended, to this defendantes knowledg or remembraunce came together with a flagg, or flagges gunnes and weapons in a merrymment and in fashion of a May game towards this defendantes fathers howse at Poinctington early in the Morning to Invite this defendantes said ffather, and this defendant, and [some] of their Neighbours and ffreindes to come to their ffeast and to spend their Monyes for the better encrease of their stock towards the the repairing of the said Church and bell or bells which were then in decay as was sayde (as in such cases in Country parrishes hath byn heretofore Comonly vsed) ...

...

1620

*Bill of Complaint in Williams v. Popley et al* PRO: STAC 8/299/24 item [2]  
single mb\* (23 May)

...

...in the house of the said Thomas Hollard they the said riotours and disorderly persons doe for the most parte of euery night sitt singing quaffing carousing and drincking both Ale and beere vntill they be overcome wth drinck In

somuch that *your* said *Servant* & subiect and the rest of *your* said subiectes  
 Neighbours inhabiting within the said parrish of Milborne port cannott take  
 any rest neither live quiett in their howses, and when the said riotous &  
 disordered *persons* have stayed som tyme in one of those howses then they  
 march armed as aforesaid to the other and there singe and drinck from the  
 evening to the morninge in dispite of *your* highnes Constables and others  
*your* highnes officers and lovinge subiectes And when they are in their Ale if  
 any poore man doe chauce to come in amongst them they in great dishonor  
 of the order and dignity of knighthood grauntable <sup>^</sup>[only] by *your* *Maiestie*  
 doe & commonly vse to make him and them to kneele downe and then the  
 said riotous *persons* doe drawe out their swordes and knight him and them,  
 and if he or they refuse yt they will beat him and them...

## MILTON CLEVEDON

1608

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 156A

f 220v (9 August)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before  
 Anthony Methuyn, MA, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe,  
 notary public*

Officium domini contra Robertum Tynny

ffor keeping tipling in his howse on the sabbaoth day & minstrelsy and  
 dauncing all evening prayer time.

Quesitus fuit per Thomam Seevyer mandatarium etc. 6 instantis Augusti etc.

Quo die comparuit dictus Tynny quem dominus iuramento oneravit &c de  
 fideliter respondendo &c, ac monuit (*blank*)

## MILVERTON

1602

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 6, pt 1

f 39\* (30 June)

*Presentment of Peter Merie and Christopher Bennett, constables, with the jury,  
 for Milverton hundred at Bridgewater sessions*

Item that George Beere did keepe Bulbeatinge and <sup>^</sup>[solde] Ale at Milverton

aforesaide the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> daie and xxv<sup>th</sup> daie of Iune last paste, withoute licence and the peace broken the same time bie one Edmond Baker of the same

parishe  
...

1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 7

f 54 (20 July)

*Jury presentment for Milverton hundred at Taunton sessions*

...

Itim wee present that Richard Davye of milverton <sup>^</sup>(weaver)<sup>1</sup> kept Bulbeating & sold drinke the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> daie of Iune laste paste at mylverton aforesaid

...

## MINEHEAD

1604

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 138

f 193v (27 November)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Eglesfield, MA, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

*Officium domini contra willelmum Rendall alias driller.*

8 d.

Hee maketh a continuall exercise of keeping dauncing & other very vnruely order in his howse of the sabaoth day in suche sort yat when the minister is doing his duty in chatechizing the youth of ye youth of the parishe theare, hee can haue fewe or none, when as the said Rendalls howse is commonly full of them about vnlawful exercizes Instruccionen pendent in filo quas consule ante determinacionem negocij ob certas causas speciales.

4 Decembris

Mr Brooke

Instruccionen continentur folio 43. libri proximi precedentis

Remanet excommunicatus et aggravatus in non comparendo &c Quo die comparuit dictus Rendall alias driller et humiliter petijt beneficium absolucionis a sententia excommunicacionis alias contra eum lata sibi impendenda et similiter quoad aggravacionem &c Ad cuius petitionem dominus eum absoluit &c et restituit &c prius [e] prestito per eundem iuramento de parendo iuri et stando mandatis ecclesie &c Tunc dominus obiecit ei [present] deteccionem &c ac



eundem iuramento oneravit &c de fideliter respondendo &c ac monuit &c qui in vim iuramento sui examinatus respondet et fassus est that on one sonday hapning neere about Candelmas last past hee offended as is objected against him submittendo se &c vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad confitendum delicto coram toto cetu immediate post preces vespertinas in ecclesia parochiali ibidem die solis proximo iuxta formam schedule &c et ad certificandum &c in proximo./

## MOORLINCH

1626

*Compert Book for Archbishop's Visitation* SRO: D/D/Ca 255  
f [102v] (11 September)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Arthur Duck, LLD, commissary during vacancy, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public*

...

Officium domini contra Richardum Simes.

Similiter presentatur for that hee vseth to keepe disorder in his howse sondaies and holie daies by tiplinge and dauncing in his howse:/. 20

Quo die comparuit, & obiecto presentamento &c respondet et fassus est &c: Vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad [p]agnoscendum eius culpam coram toto cetu post lectionem evangelij &c vestibus consuetis &c & ad certificandum &c.

18<sup>o</sup> Septembris 1626: loco consistoriali &c, coram domino doctore Duck commissario &c, introducta schedula penitentie &c, cum certificario &c 25

## MUCHELNEY

1437

*Register of Bishop Stafford* SRO: D/D/B reg 5  
ff 136v-7 (3 October)

...

Iohannes permissione diuina bathoniensis & Wellensis Episcopus dilectis in christo filijs Abbati monasterij de Muchilneye ordinis sancti benedicti nostre diocesis Magistro Iohanni Reynald Canonico et Subdecano ecclesie nostre Cathedralis Wellensis ac Magistro Iohanni Steuenes in legibus licenciato Commissario nostro generali Salutem gratiam & benedictionem Cum nuper pretextu quorundam excessuum & defectuum quos in dicto Monasterio & in quibusdam ministrantibus in eodem Aliquamdiu cum cum scandalo pululasse

2/ iuramento: for iuramenti

41m/ nucupatam: for nuncupatam; abbreviation mark missing

40/ cum cum: dittography

fama vicinie ad *nostram* audienciam perduxit quia vero non curauimus facile credere Rem sic se habere quemadmodum fama vicinie proclamauit Eapropter debitum pastoralis officij in hac parte executuri visitacionem *nostram* ordinariam in Monasterio *predicto* vrgente necessitate penultimo die mensis Augusti vltimo preterito inchoari decreuimus & ad locum iuxta canonica instituta personaliter descendere & videri vtrum clamorem veritas commutaretur Cumque dictis die et loco visitacionis officium sicuti potuimus diligenter exequentes inter cetera reformatione digna vnum signanter comperimus videlicet quod est ad portam orientalem Conuentualis ecclesie Monasterij *predicti* quedam porta dicta vulgariter Sexteynezate per quam nedum persone suspecte & presertim mulieres de incontinencia diffamate colore lotricum et aliorum seruiciorum pretensorum nimis frequentem cum scandalo horis & temporibus indebitis atque suspectis habent ingressum. Verumeciam nonnulli monachi dicti monasterij honestatis monachalis laxatis Abenis ad voluptates spectacula & dissoluciones per eam exire suo prohibito non verentur quinymmo quod dolenter referendum est interdum post completorium quidam monachi per dictam portam separatim egredientes abiecta professe Religionis obseruancia soli cum suspectis personis inuerecunde extra septa Monasterij videntur & deprehenduntur fabulari Victualia quoque que pauperibus in elemosinam erogari deberent ad vsum huiusmodi personarum suspectarum defraudata elemosina per dictam portam indebite distrahuntur Atque cum hijs mala quasi indicibilia per huiusmodi porte apercionem indies committuntur quod exinde scandalum toti monasterio de quo cordis dolore concutimur nisi celerius de remedio sit prouisum per futura longissima tempora verissimiliter orietur Nos enim tot malis & occasione dicti scandali ex totis visceribus obuiare Religionique et vtilitati atque bone fame monasterij *predicti* ac omnium degencium in eodem cupientes paternaliter prouidere doctrinam veritatis euangelice prosequi conantes qua instruimur Quod si manus tua vel pes tuus scandalizat te abscinde eum & proice abs te. portam *predictam* claudi & clausam persistere ita quod per eam nullus pateat ad tempus introitus vel egressus decreuimus prout eciam tenore *presencium* decreuimus iusticia exigente Quapropter vobis omnibus coniunctim & duobus vestrum diuisim tercio absente committimus & mandamus in virtute obediencie firmiter iniungentes quatinus portam *predictam* taliter claudi murari & firmari sumptibus dicti Monasterij faciatis intra quindecim dierum spacium l a die Recepcionis *presencium* continue numerandum Ita quod nullus pateat extunc per eam ex quacumque causa introitus vel egressus donec occasio dicti scandali penitus supersedere noscatur ac aliud a nobis in hac parte receptum specialiter

6/ videri: for videre(?)

28-9/ si manus... abs te: see Matthew 8:8

in mandatis Et si aliquis monachorum monasterij predicti execucionem presentis nostri decreti siue mandati se opposuerit vel reclamare presumpserit eum per quascumque censuras ecclesiasticas & carceris penam si oporteat propter suam manifestam offensam & rebellionem ac notorij contemptus malificium canonice compescatis Et quid factum fuerit in premissis nos citra festum omnium sanctorum proximum futurum post datam presentium debite certificetis per vestras seu sic certificent per suas litteras patentes harum seriem continentes authentice sigillatas qui nostrum presens decretum siue mandatum fuerint executi In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hijs apponi data in Manerio nostro de degmerffeld tercio die Mensis Octobris Anno domini Millesimo CCCC<sup>mo</sup> xxxvij<sup>mo</sup> Et nostre consecracionis Anno terciodecimo ...

## MUDFORD

1625

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 247

f 2v (20 September)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Arthur Duck, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public and registrar*

Officium domini contra Iacobum Hellier

Denunciatur domino Iudicanti. That hee on a Sondaie within this quarter of this yeare hee with other companie came to Mudford to ring and when they weare come into the Church hee tould them hee would goe vpp into the pulpitt, and preach, and when hee was vpp in the pulpitt hee toke the cushion from the pulpitt, and putt him on his head three corner wayes, and theare vsed manie Idle speeches; to the great dislike of the parishioners of Mudford aforesaid: Ac quod desuper laborat publica vox, et fama./ Seevier Citatus fuit per Thomam Seevier mandatarium &c 19<sup>o</sup> die mensis Septembris instantis ibidem, super quo fidem fecit &c. Quo die [feta] comparuit dictus Hellier, cui dominus obiecit detectionem &c ac eundem iuramento oneravit (blank)

25-6/ hee ... hee: first hee redundant

## NAILSEA

1610

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 163

ff 113-13v\* (17 July)

*Proceedings of the morning session held before Francis James, LL.D., vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

*contra* Iohannem Whiting d: nuptum.

24 Iulij

Notatur de incontinentia cum quadam Gracia Stretting vxore Iohannis Stretting de eadem. On Witson tuesday last past the said Iohn Stretting being a minstrell and going to Cleuedon to play with purpose nor to returne before the wednesday or thursday following, but having forgotten his l box of stringes behinde him, hee returned the tuesday night, and finding the dores fast, knocked to come in, his wief arose & lett him in, And having before heard a man talking within his [d] howse, when hee came in demaunded his wief whoe was in the howse with her, shee awnswered no, but the said Sreating suspecting yat shee falcifyed with him asked whether theare weare anie fyer in the howse or nor, shee said no. Then Streating having annother man in his companie requested him to go light a candle which being brought hee espied the said whiting in his howse, & demaunding him what hee did theare, hee awnswered that hee came thither to haue him to work the nexte day. But the said Streating perceaving how the world went, turned his wief out of doares whoe departed and tooke her apparell with her, and went home to her father. By meanes wheareof theare is a common voyce & fame hereof in the premisses Et fertur that sithence the said whiting hath giuen the said Streating some monie, to appease him. Quesitus fuit per Laurentium Hill &c 14 instantis Iulij &c Quo die dominus decreuit (*blank*)

*contra* dictam Graciam Streating

24 Iulij.

Pro eodem delicto./ Quesita fuit eodem die Quo die similiter

...

## NORTH CADBURY

1618

*Will of John Hole* PRO: PROB 11/131

f 467\* (16 April; proved 17 June)

...

...Item I giue to Paule Guibson my fowlinge peece and my payer of virginalls....

12/ Witson tuesday last past: 29 May

## NORTH CHERITON

1613

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 174

f 235v\* (13 April)

5

*Proceedings of the morning session held before Anthony Methuyn, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

[Contra Robertum Banfeeld

10

d.] Iuratus respondet et fassus est yat hee was a spectator vppon ye players, & was  
[13] Aprilis] absent from evening prayer yat day et habet ad agnoscendum eius culpam post  
1 preces vespertinas die solis proximo coram ministro <sup>^</sup>et<sup>^</sup> gardianis, [et 6 alijs  
parochianis] et ad certificandum in proximo, et ad soluendum feodum eius in  
proximo/ deinde soluit summum predictum./ ]

15

...

## NORTH CURRY

1314

*Liber Albus II* WCL

20

ff 55v-6\* (Custumal of the tenants of North Curry church)

...

uridene  
gesto

Iohannes de Muridene tenet I Mesuagium cum curtilagio I ferdellum terre cum  
prato adiacente ... Et habebit gestum suum in festo Natalis domini videlicet 25  
se tercio & debet ferre secum propriam mappam ciphum & discum & sedebit  
ad prandium suum se tercio vt predictum est in aula curie domini videlicet in  
quodam certo loco pro tenemento eiusdem Iohannis eodem die ibidem assignato  
& habebit pro se et socijs suis ij. albos panes & I nigrum panem & bonam  
ceruisiam ad potandum scilicet quantum potare voluerit dum dies durauerit & 30  
habebit I bonum ferculum carnis bouis cum cenapio bene coctum & vnum  
bonum ferculum baconis cum cenapio bene coctum & I bonum ferculum de  
waceronde cum medietate I galline cocte integre supraposte & caseum Et de  
istis ferculis predictis prepositus ei deserviet et habebit ignem et I satis de focagio  
ad idem pro se & viscinis suis dummodo dies durauerit Et quando aduesperascit 35  
habebit pro se et viscinis duas candelas de assisa et ibidem sedebunt & potabunt  
quousque dicte candeles vz. vna post aliam comburentur ex toto si per totum  
tempus sedere voluerint Et habebit pro se & viscinis suis I wastellum in tres  
partes cissum ad antiquos ludos Natales cum dicto wastello ludendos Et cum  
domui sui de gesto predicto redierit habebit cum eo omnimoda fercula sua 40  
que super mappam suam post prandium suum remanserint vz. totum panem  
integrum & cissum omnimodas carnes suas integras & cissas & caseum siue

ebit fercula  
secum non  
imesta

sit integrum siue fractum Et si in propria persona adesse non possit racione debilitatis tunc liberabuntur eidem cum miserit duo albi panes <sup>^</sup>et<sup>1</sup> I panis niger ij lagene bone ceruisie & duo bona fercula carnis crude scilicet bouis & baconis Et veniet cum I homine ad Curiam domini secundo die Natalis vz. die sancti Stephani immediate post horam nonam & habebit suum Medale pro falcacione prati de la Brodemede & ibidem sedebit in aula & potabit bonam ceruisiam ab aduentu suo predicto quousque aduesperascit si per totum tempus commorare voluerit...

ff 56v-7\*

Robertus le ffishshere tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente ... & in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando & consuetudinibus percipiendo faciet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Ricardus Artur tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre cum prato adiacente ... Et faciet & percipiet in omnibus alijs seruicijs sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden

...

Walterus smale tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre cum prato adiacente ... Et faciet & percipiet omnibus alijs seruicijs sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Walterus Montayn tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente ... Et faciet omnia seruicia & in omnibus percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Willelmus Draycote tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente ... Et faciet omnia seruicia in omnibus percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Matillis Trosseloue tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre I cum prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs & consuetudinibus faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Thomas Simond tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato Adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Robertus Cog tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum

Cory

\* mado willelmus  
weol

\* mado w. Roket

prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando et consuetudinibus percipiendo faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

do I Gale

Iohanna Poer tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio & I ferdellum terre cum prato 5  
adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando consuetudinibus percipiendo  
faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

do I ffox

Gilbertus Portifer tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre dimidium 10  
cum prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando & consuetudinibus  
percipiendo faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

elmu Mcltan

Willelmus Dobyn tenet I Mesuagium & curtillagium continentia dimidium  
acre terre ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando & consuetudinibus percipiendo  
faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden. 15

...

oker

Willelmus de Bikenhull tenet dimidium virgate terre cum Mesuagio curtillagio  
bosco & prato eidem adiacentibus...

ff 57v-8v\*

20

...Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando et consuetudinibus percipiendo faciet  
& percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Rogerus Corteys tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum dimidium 25  
terre cum bosco & prato adiacentibus ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando  
faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden

...

Willelmus Beaufere tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre cum  
bosco & prato adiacentibus ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando faciet & 30  
percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Iohannes atte Bergh tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre  
cum prato et bosco adiacentibus ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando  
& consuetudinibus faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden. 35

...

Philippus de lustokes tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre  
cum prato et bosco adiacentibus ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando  
consuetudinibus percipiendo faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de  
Muriden. 40

...

Iohannes le Palmere tenet I ferdellum terre cum mesuagio curtillagio bosco & prato adiacentibus ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs & consuetudinibus faciet et percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

hillond

Iohannes loue tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente I ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando consuetudinibus percipiendo faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Alicia Alward tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente ... Et faciet in omnibus alijs seruicijs operando consuetudinibus percipiendo faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Willelmus Springod tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre cum prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Iohannes Margerie tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente ... Et faciet in omnibus alijs seruicijs & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Cristina Coterel tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Matillis relicta Ricardi Osegod tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...

Ricardus Damolde tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...I

Ricardus & Iohannes Gente tenent I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre cum prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis facient & percipient sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Iohannes Nyweman tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium ferdelli terre cum prato Adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden.

...



Willelmus atte Mere tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre cum prato Adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Robertus Cosyn tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I Actam terre cum prato Adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Lucia Dobyn tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio & dimidium acre terre ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Simon le Schippere tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio & dimidium acre terre ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Iohannes le Schippere tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio & dimidium acre terre...

f 59

...Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Robertus Copyner tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I actam terre ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs & consuetudinibus faciet & percipiet vt predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Ricardus le Noreys tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio & dimidium acre terre ... Et faciet & percipiet in omnibus seruicijs & consuetudinibus vt predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Iohannes de draycote & Nicholaus <sup>l</sup>le<sup>l</sup> ffysshere tenent I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I actam & dimidium terre ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs & consuetudinibus facient & percipient sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Mazelina Baret tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I actam & dimidium terre ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs & consuetudinibus faciet & percipiet vt predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Iohanna lotrix tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium acre terre ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs faciet & percipiet vt predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Galfridus Baret tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio dimidium acie terre ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs & consuetudinibus faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

Gilbertus Coppynge tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio iiii acras terre cum prato 5  
adiacente ... Et habebit communam pasture & gestum ad Natale & suum Medale  
vt predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

f 59v

...

Stokes Matillis Brounesmyth tenet I Mesuagium cum curtillagio & I acram terre ... 10  
Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet vt predictus Iohannes  
de Muriden...

...

lillesdon Symon Ory tenet apud lillesdon I Mesuagium cum curtillagio I ferdellum terre 15  
cum prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs consuetis faciet & percipiet  
sicut predictus Iohannes de Muriden...

...

f 60\* (*Custumal of the tenants of the ancient demesne*)

...

@ hundredarius Iohannes de Cnappe & Margareta vxor eius Adam le henre & Margeria vxor eius  
et eorum tenentes tenent ij. virgatas dimidium terre cum Mesuagijs curtillagijs  
gardinis boscis pasturis & pratis adiacentibus ad ijdem Et predictus Iohannes est  
balliuus domini Regis in hundredo de Nothcory predicto ... Et habebit gestum 25  
suum in festo Natalis domini se tercio viz duos bonos albos panes de frumento  
bonam ceruisiam ad potandum quantum potare voluerint dummodo dies  
durauerit I bonum ferculum carnis bouine cum cenapio I bonum ferculum  
baconis cum cenapio & I bonum ferculum Broweci de gallina & caseum Et  
habebit satis de focagio ad cibaria sua & aliorum tenentium de antiquo dominico 30  
domini Regis coquenda Et insuper habebit satis de focagio ad ardendum coram  
eo & ceteris tenentibus predictis a tempore quo primo venerint ad prandium  
vsque ad vesperam & postquam aduesperascit habebit focagium vt predictum  
est & duas candelas de assisa pro se & vicinis suis de antiquo dominico ibidem  
sedebunt & potabunt quousque dicte candeles viz I post aliam ex toto 35  
comburentur si per tantum tempus sedere voluerint Et si non venerit ad dictum  
gestum die predictae tunc potest mittere tres homines loco eius & isti tres sic  
loco eius missi percipient in omnibus die predicto sicut predictus Iohannes  
percipiet si ibidem in propria persona fuisset Et si non venerit ad dictum gestum  
nec aliquem miserit nomine eius tunc liberabuntur eidem videlicet ad domum 40  
suam duo boni albi panes de frumento ij lagene bone ceruisie & ij bona fercula

Et in crastino  
natalis

carnis crude videlicet bouis & baconis. Et in crastino Natalis domini inmediate post nonam habebit suum Medale cum I homine vz bonam ceruisiam ad potandum quantum potare voluerint a primo aduentu suo quousque aduesperascit si per tantum tempus sedere voluerint...

5

f 62v\* (*Tenants in villeinage*)

...

Willelmus Brygge [Rogerus Bat] tenet I ferdellum terre cum Mesuagio & curtillagio & prat' adiacent'...

10

f 63\*

... Et habebit communam pasture & gestum suum ad natale & suum Medale sicut predictus Iohannes de Cnappe preter hoc quod quando venit ad gestum predictum debet ferre secum propriam Mappam Ciphum & discum & quicquid remanserit de conuiuio suo supra Mappam suam post prandium domui sue vel vbi voluerit secum deferat absque calumpnia & insuper habebit pro se & vicinis suis I wastellum in tres partes cissum ad antiquos ludos Natales cum dicto wastello ludendos...

De wastello

...

Seth de Cory tenet I ferdellum terre cum Mesuagio curtillagio & prato adiacente ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs & consuetudinibus faciet & percipiet sicut predictus Rogerus Bat...

20

...

25

f 63v\*

Willelmus atte Berghe tenet I ferdellum terre cum Mesuagio curtillagio & pratis adiacentibus. ... Et in omnibus alijs seruicijs & consuetudinibus faciet et percipiet sicut predictus Rogerus Bat...

30

...

1541–2

*Reeves' Account Book* WCL

f 14\* (*Christmas*) (*Payments*)

35

Custus Gusti Natalis Domini

...

lxxj s. viij d.

## 1542-3

*Reeves' Account Book* WCLf 37 (*Christmas*) (*Payments*)

...

Custus Gusti Natalis Domini

lxxj s. viij d. 5

...

## 1543-4

*Reeves' Account Book* WCLf 57v (*Christmas*) (*Payments*)

...

Custus Gusti Natalis Domini

lxxj s. x d.

...

## 1602

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 6, pt 1f 41 (*30 June*)*Jury presentment for North Curry hundred at Taunton sessions*

...

Item wee ffarther presente that there was a Bulbaytinge kept and ale or bere sold by one Iohn Pollarde [fine [fact] xij d.]<sup>1</sup> of wrantadge of the parishe of North Currie the xij<sup>th</sup> daye of maye nowe last past and sithence

...

## 1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 7f 59 (*20 July*)*Jury presentment for North Curry hundred at Taunton sessions*

...

ffarther wee present that william Lyder of North Currie husbandman and Alice his wife the ffourth daie of Iulie in the yeare aforesaid did sell drinke at North Currie and kepe Bulbaytinge and Bearebaytinge at [the place] [°North Currie°] aforesaid °contrarie to the forme of the statute in that case maid & provided° ffarther wee presente that Christopher Goodridge the younger of the parishe of North Curry yeoman the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> daye of Iune in the ffirst yeare of the Raigne of our Soueraigne Lorde kinge Iames did sell drinke and kepe Bulbaytinge the daie and yeare aforesaid/ °at North Currie abouesaid° °contrarie to the forme of the Statut in that Case provided°

## NORTH WOOTTON

1611

*Act Book for Precentor's Peculiar* SRO: D/D/Ca 162A

f 62v\* (6 July)

5

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral next to the clock before Richard Boughton, STB, cleric, precentor, in the presence of John Atwell, notary public and registrar*

...

10

Negocium presentamenti sive addendi ad presentamentum gardianorum & inquisitorum de Wootton infra parochiam de Pulton introductum per Iohannem Champion et Willelmum Iennyns gardianos de Wootton et Stephanum Swadell Henricum Swetnam et Waymothum Talbott inquisitores assistentes ibidem

15

Quibus die et loco predictis comparuerunt prefati gardiani et ceteri inquisitores de Wootton et sua sponte et vltro fassi sunt sese iam meminisse et recordari quedam delicta non Ante presentata per eosdem hanc Curiam spectantia corrigenda que in quadam billa sive papienda schedula per eos exhibita continentia quam billam peterunt admitti Ad quorum petitionem dominus eam admisit virtute eorum iuramenti alias prestiti Cuius quidem bille tenor sequitur et est talis

20

...

Item we present that there was daunceinge vsed in the churchyard of Wootton by straungers

25

Nota: the churchwardens should haue forbiddenda the dauncers, the falt is the churcheward bycause they kept churchuale.

...

## NORTON ST PHILIP

30

1602/3

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 34

f [105v]\* (After 12 February) (Deposition of William Waters, weaver, aged 60)

...

35

Ad secundum tertium quartum [et] quintum articulos articulorum predictorum in vim Iuramenti sui examinatus deponit et dicit That vppon a certaine day hapninge [a] betweene the feast of Whitsenday and St Iohn Baptist about two or three yeeres agonn which of the two he cannot certanlye sett downe as he sayeth this Iurat did see the articulate Richard Davison [to stand talking togethers alone in the streate] and Elizabeth Coales [of] (being a

40

38/ Whitsenday: 12 June; corrected from Whitsentyde

woman <sup>^</sup>[whome<sup>1</sup>] this Iurat had som suspition of because he sawe <sup>^</sup>[her<sup>1</sup>] accompanye certaine Poppett players <sup>^</sup>[in norton<sup>1</sup>] standing alone talking togethers in the streate at Phillipps Norton, and after a whiles they bothe togethers went to an Inne theare called the signe of the George, and passed thorough the same, out into a close in the backside <sup>^</sup>[being noe highe waye<sup>1</sup>] and thence <sup>^</sup>[went<sup>1</sup>] vpp to the saide Davisons masters house bothe togethers, And saieth that this Iurat did watch them all that whiles, and stayed watching for the space of a quarter of an houre tyll they came forthe bothe togethers...

## NORTON SUB HAMDON

1494

*Will of William Case* PRO: PROB 11/10  
f 159v\* (14 June; proved 30 January 1494/5)

...Item to my lady ffytzwarryn my faire lute...

...

## NUNNEY

1608

*Bill of Complaint in Best v. Frowd et al* PRO: STAC 8/48/16 item [2]  
*Bill of Complaint in Best v. Traske* PRO: STAC 8/61/27

See Frome 1608

1616

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 25  
f 44\* (Before 17 September)

To the Right worshipfull the Kinges Maiesties Iustices  
of the peace in the Countie of Somerset.

The humble peticion of william Gunnell.

Humble sheweth vnto your Worships That about one yeare sithence your said supplia<sup>nt</sup> did place Robert Gunnell his sonne as an Apprentize for the space of seaven yeares with one Thomas Coombes of Trucketts Hill in the parishe of Nunney a Musitian to the end That the said Robert might bee trained vpp and instructed in the said Art and mistery Soe as That after the said yeares expired hee might bee able to gett his livinge And that alsoe att the placinge of his said sonne your said supplia<sup>nte</sup> did give with him an Instrument or base Viall and besides apparelled him in such manner in all respectes as was

1/ because: b written over closing parenthesis

meete for an Apprentize to your said Suppliantes great chardge more then was  
 for your Suppliantes ease his poore estate considered  
 Nowe so it is *Right Worshipfull* That the said Thomas Coombes beinge decayed  
 and much indebted did sell the instrument aforesaid, and not otherwise able  
 to live, is gonn out of this countie and hath betaken himselfe to Service in one  
 place and hath alsoe placed [his] his wief as a servant in another place The  
 said Robert the Apprentize aforesaid being left behinde in this countie vppon  
 the chardge of your Suppliante havinge worne out all his apparell nowe is  
 without service, And in as much as that without danger of lawe none may  
 take the said Apprentize without his saide Masters Consent And that the same  
 is not to be obtained because it is not knowne where his said Master resideth.  
 The premisses and poore Estate of your poore petitioner Considered who is  
 a poore aged Almsman in the Almshouse of Welles) Maye it please your good  
 Worshippes to order and giue way That it maie be lawfull for your Suppliante  
 to place his said sonne with another Master And your said Suppliante shalbe  
 dailye bownde to praie to god for the good estate of all your Worshippes in  
 happines and prosperitie longe to endure./  
 °the Apprentisse to be discharged°

f 46\* (17 September)

Good Sir: I had purposed to haue met you at ye Sessions, But am by an extreeme  
 fitt of the Collick prevented. I promised their to preferr the sute of one of our  
 poore almsmen of our [alms] almshouse in this towne vnto the Consideracion  
 of ye Bench, whoe hath placed a sonn of his an apprentice, And ye partie with  
 whome he was placed beinge much Indebted is departed out of the cuntrie,  
 In soe much as that ye apprentice is vnprovided for and left vnto him selfe as  
 appeereth by his petition, And because he is an apprentice his father cannot  
 else wheare place him without warrant from the Iustices & that he be  
 discharged from his said Master soe as that such as wilbe willinge to take the  
 said apprentice maye without danger receive him. /The petitioner (or his wyfe)  
 wilbe their to deliver the petition, my request to you is that you wilbe pleased  
 soe ffar to ffarther this honest sute as the equitie of the cawse will deserve.  
 Soe with myne & my wyfes most hartie commendacons vnto you & good  
 Mistris War. I committ you to god Restinge euer

your assured lovinge ffrend  
 (signed) Thomas Sowthworth

12-13/ who ... Welles): opening parenthesis omitted

16/ dailye: y written over e

34/ commendacons: for commendacions; abbreviation mark missing

36-7m/ °Welles ... 1616°: possibly in Southworth's hand

**Quarter Sessions Order Book** SRO: Q/SO 2

p 416 (17–19 September)

Robert  
Gunnell./

...  
ffor as much as it appeareth vnto the Court by the petition of *william* Gunnell  
that about a yeare sithence he placed his sonne Robert Gunnell as an apprentice 5  
for seaven yeares with one Thomæs Coombes of Truckettes hill within the  
*parishe* of Nunney a musitian to thend he might be instructed in the same  
art to get his owne livinge after the expiracion of the said 7 yeares And for  
that it appeareth also by the *said* petition that the *said* Thomas Coombes is 10  
much is indebtedt & is by reason thereof gon out of this County & hath  
betaken himselfe to service in one place & settled his wife as a servant in  
another place soe that the said Robert is left behinde in this County vpon  
the charge of his said father (whoe is a poore Almes man in the Almes house  
of Wells It is now ordered by the [Court] Iustices heere assembled that the  
said Robert Gunninge shalbe discharged of his said Apprentishipp from the 15  
*said* Commes and that all Contractes made between the *said* Coombes &  
his said Apprentice or any of his frendes touchinge the same shalbe vtterly voyd  
& of none effectt And farther that it may be lawfull for any other person to  
receave & take the *said* Robert Gunninge into service/

...

20

## OAKE

1628

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 265

f 18 (4 November)

25

Officium domini contra Aliciam Ware.

Denunciatur domino Iudicanti that shee did daunce att Oake revell all prayer  
time vpon the saboath daie to the dislikinge of all the neighbours/.

30

18: Novembris

Citetur

Officium domini contra Elizabetham Ware

Pro eodem delicto/ (blank)

[18:] 18:  
Novembris

Officium domini contra Agnetem Ware

Pro eodem delicto/ (blank)

35

18: Novembris

9–10/ is much is: *for* is much(?)

13–14/ (whoe ... Wells: closing parenthesis omitted)



## ODCOMBE

1598

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 4f 42\* (*After 12 September*)

5

*Jury presentment for Houndsborough hundred*

Iuratores pro Domina Regina presentant quod Thomas Gregorie nuper de  
 Odcombe (. . .) Comitatu predicto yeoman xij<sup>o</sup> die Septembris Anno Regni 10  
 domine nostre Elizabethæ dei gracia Angliæ ffræuncie & hiberniæ Regine fidei  
 defensoris &c xlmo apud Odcombe predictum in Comitatu predicto custodivit  
 & manutenuit tauri verberacionem vocatam A bulbeating ac adtunc & ibidem  
 Cervisiam & Cervisiam lupulatam vocatas Ale & beere diuersas leges dicte  
 domine Regine vendidit & vtterauit absque aliqua licencia aliquorum 15  
 Iusticiariorum pacis in Comitatu predicto obtenta Contra formam Statuti  
 in huiusmodi casibus editi & prouisi et Contra Pacem dicte domine Regine  
 Coronam & dignitatem suas/

...

20

1606

*Thomas Coryate, Coryats Crambe* STC: 5807

sigs D4–F2v\*

...

IT hapned in the yeare 1606. that the Church stocke of my natalitall Parish 25  
 of Odcombe being exhausted & spent sauing sixteene shillings, some of my  
 friends of the Parish, amongst the rest the Churchwardens sollicitid me to  
 set abroach my wits, and inuent some conceited and plausible matter, to the  
 end to draw some great company of good fellowes together for the benefit of  
 our Church of Odcombe, seeing they knew that I was well acquainted in the 30  
 countrie. Hereupon I resolued to muster vp out of the Parish one hundred  
 choise and able men, as were fit to beare armes in the field, and by a time  
 limited, euen the VWhitsonday following about sixe of the clocke in the  
 morning appointed them to meete me at Odcombe Crosse. VWhich I they  
 did according to my appointment, being furnished with conuenient munition 35  
 for a kinde of warfare. For some of them had muskets, others Caliuers, some  
 Partizans, some Halberts, with diuersity of other weapons. Likewise we had

14/ diuersas leges: for contra diuersas leges(?)

25/ IT: large ornamental capital I

good Martiall Musicke and military officers. I my selfe being their Captaine, was mounted vpon a goodly milk-white steed, vnto whom that verse of Virgil which he made vpon Queene Didoes horse, might be well applied.

Stat Sonipes, ac fræna ferox spumantia mandit.

5

And hauing put my whole centurie into a conuenient order, marched forward with them towards the towne of Euill three miles distant from Odcombe, being met by the way by the Oppidaners of Euill, that consisted of two cohorts, one Masculine & another Fœminine, which incountred vs like a company 10 of Amazones, & afters here had bene some two or three volleys of shot discharged on both sides with a prettie kinde of velitation or light skirmish, we descended a hill called Henford, and entred the towne. In the market place whereof nere to the Crosse, wee had one skirmish more, but vmbraticall and 15 imaginarie. Then I ascended an eminent and conspicuous place about the Crosse, where was erected a kind of Canopy, vnder the which I aduanded my selfe alone, and after the warlike Musicke was ended, hauing two or three times brandished my naked-sword, I spake this Oration following to the Euillians, I and at the least two thousand people more, that then flocked together to the 20 towne of Euill from many parishes of the cuntry round about.

20

FRiends and Confœderates, if ye marueile for what cause we Odcombian onely of all your other neighbours whatsoever ye haue bordering about your towne, doe no lesse valiantly then voluntarily present our selues in this military 25 manner, according to the forme of martiall discipline before the face of your whole towne, and your fraternities: I will alledge two causes why ye ought to pardon our boldnesse in this behalfe. First, because I that am chosen to be their Generall Captaine, haue euer from mine infancy borne that loue to your towne, that I thought good at this present to make an apparant demonstration 30 thereof by some extraordinary action; being also the principall animator of my whole band of soldiers to ioyn their hands, their hearts and their purses with me for the accomplishment of this my resolved proiect. Secondly, because although we are come vnto you with martiall instruments, yet not with a martiall resolution to inuade the precincts of your incorporation by 35 force of armes, to brandish our glittering and refulgent swords after a terrible

5/ Stat ... mandit: *'Her steed stands still and champs fiercely the frothy bit'; Virgil, Aeneid 4.135*

11/ afters here: *for* after there

15/ conspicuous: *for* conspicuous

16/ aduanded: *for* aduanced or aduanted

22/ FRiends: *large ornamental capital F*

and warlike sort against you, to bereaue you of your ancient priuiledges and immunities, to ransacke your houses and your goods, to subuert your whole estates, to lade our selues with the rich spoyles of conquered enemies, to put some as obstinate and stiffe-necked rebels to the furious and irrelenting dint of our swords, to embrace others with the armes of mercy that shall humbly submit themselves into our hands, and after to carry them away into most lamentable captiuitie. These matters (deare Confederates) we neuer as much as harboured in our thoughts, much lesse intended to put any such hostility in execution. But verily we are come vnto you for a contrary purpose, namely, to offer our selues euen of our owne accords vnto you in a league of friendship, yea such a league, the like whereof made betwixt vs Odcombians and you Euillians, neither antiquity hath recorded, nor the time wherein wee liue hath seene, nor succeeding ages could haue hoped for, had not we Odcombians at this present out of the sincere affection we beare you, sued vnto you for this confederacy. Moreouer we are come vnto you for another cause, which is very honest and I religious: for we determine to spend our money with you for the benefit of your Church, hoping yea most earnestly crauing to receiue the like curtesie againe at your hands for our Church of Odcombe. But before I vse any further speeches vnto you concerning the confirming of this foresaid league of friendship, I resolute, by way of preuention, or preoccupation, to communicate my slender opinion vnto you concerning the lawfull vse of that, for the which we are now assembled, I meane Church-ales; least any captious and carping wits should deem that we haue intruded our selues into your liberties, as a very disorderly and confused crew, rather to giue some cause of offence, then to benefit your Church. Therefore to the end I may illustrate this present matter by relating examples of solemnities vsed in ancient ages, vnto some whereof our Church-ales may (in my opinion) be very fitly compared, I will exemplayfe some few. The ancients celebrated solempne meetings at certaine times of the yeare for their pastimes and recreations, as the Romanes had their seuerall afeasts, whereof some were called Bacchanalia or Dionysia, some Saturnalia, some Agonalia, some Lupercalia, & some others Amberualia, with innumerable more that were ordained for sundrie purposes. Likewise the Athenians had their bPanathenea, & their Thesmophoria. The Thebans I their cAphrodisia, and their Trietericall Orgia celebrated euery third yeare vpon Cithæron a mountaine of Bœotia. The Corinthians their dHyacinthia. The Lacedæmonians their ePhiditia, inuented by their famous lawgiuer Lycurgus, and so called from the Greeke word φειδῶ which signifieth parsimonie, because those feastes exhibited a very true spectacle of sobriety, and frugality. Finally the ancient Christians which liued about the beginning of the

These feasts are related of at large by sundrie ancient Roman Writers: Liuius, Varro, Macrobius, Gellius, &c.

Isocrates thereof wrote an Oration.

Xenophon historia ræca. libro 5.

Xenophon in oratione de Agesilao.

35–6m/ Isocrates ... Oration: *Isocrates*, *Panathenaicus*

37–8m/ Xenophon ... 5: *Xenophon*, *Hellenica* 5.4.4–9

39–40m/ Xenophon ... Agesilao: *Xenophon*, *Agesilaus* 2.17

e Xenophon  
historia Græca.  
libro 5.  
Plutarchus in  
Lycurgo.

f Epistola  
Iudæ Apostoli  
Tertullianus in  
Apologetico.

g Homerus  
Iliade 6.

Primitiue Church had their feasts of charity, which they called in Greek  
ἀγάπας because they were the verie meanes to confirme mutuall amitie,  
and Christian charity betwixt friends and friends. I humbly craue pardon for  
mine errour (if at the least I erre) in saying that these Church-ales which we  
vse now in England are very like to those ἀγάπαι of the ancient Christians,  
if they are rightly and religiously vsed, as they ought to be without any  
outragious enormities. Truly I thinke they are: my reason is, because these  
are feasts of charity, as those were, and they were instituted by our ancient  
progenitors for many hundred years ago for these two causes especially First  
for the breeding of loue betwixt neighbors, & secondly for the raising of a  
stocke for the supporting and maintenance of our Church, & the Church  
affairs: so that I do most confidently beleue that the good & religious vse of  
Church-ales may be well retained, if the abuses thereof be vtterly banished  
and exterminated out of a Christian Commonwealth, as drunkennesse,  
gluttonie, swearing, lasciuiousnesse, with many more, which indeed I must  
needs confesse seeme to be the inseparable accidents, and indiuiduall adiuncts  
of Church-ales. But ought the vse of Church-ales, which were first destined  
for a religious intent, to be absolutely extirpated, because now and then some  
few abuses creepe into ciuill and sober societies, by the meanes of some  
dissolute, rusticall, and ill-nurtured pessants? Surely no. Neither ought they  
which doe so greatly dislike the lawfull vse of Church-ales soberly managed  
for the benefit of a stocke-spent Church, incurre lesse reprehension, then that  
furious king of Thrace & Lycurgus, who because many of his subiects were  
oftentimes drunke with the wine that came from plentifull vineyards of his  
kingdom, in his angrie passion, caused all the vines of Thrace to be rooted  
vp; an action verily most indiscreet and inconsiderate. For it behooued him  
rather to haue rooted away the abuse, I meane the drunkennesse of his subiects,  
then to abolish both the vse and the abuse cleane together. Therefore let vs, at  
this our present meeting (fellow souldiers) imitate the feasts of those ancient  
and religious Christians, not those of the prophane I and irreligious Gentiles,  
wherein were exhibited many lasciuious spectacles, that as certain angling  
hookes yeilded alluring baites to draw the spectators to diuers vanities, and  
most inciuill outrage: but we Christians ought at our solemnities to expresse  
a very patterne of modesty, and temperance yet so intermingled and seasoned

1-4m/ Xenophon ... 5: *Xenophon*, *Hellenica* 5.4.28(?)

3-4m/ Plutarchus in Lycurgo: *Plutarch*, *Lives Lycurgus* 12.1-3

5-6m/ Epistola ... Apostoli: *Jude* 12

6-7m/ Tertullianus in Apologetico: *Tertullian*, *Apologeticum* 39.6

23-4m/ Homerus Iliade 6: *Homer*, *Iliad* 6.130-40

Atticis leporibus, that is, with the sauory salt of pleasant conceits, well besecming both the time, the place, and the persons, that they may neither sauour of a rude scurrility on the one side, nor of a too Cynicall austeritie on the other side, but keepe the golden meane, which vertue austwixt both extremes we call in Greeke ἀστεύότης, in Latine vrbanitas, and in our mother English 5  
tongue, ciuility. Now for as much as this sociable & neighborly meeting, which doth tend to the aduancement of our Churches wealth, cannot be performed without some expences of mony, giue me leaue I pray you to make some short digression from my maine matter, to the end to animate you to spend your money for so laudable a purpose. Be not I beseech you slaues to your money, 10  
which is but a base excrement digged out of the very bowels of the earth. Worship not so dumbe an image, as a litle peece of stamped gold or siluer. For truly I may very fitly terme those euen worshippers of their money, out of whose purses a man shall I with greater difficulty draw a litle peece of coine, althogh it be for the benefit of their country, the credit of themselues, the 15  
good of their soules, and the wealth of their Church; then Hercules club out of his hands. Therefore set abroach your pelfe at so opportune a time as this is; howbeit I exhort you not to prodigality, which is an extreme vice, but to frugall and moderate expences for the aduantage of your Church. Remember that golden sentence of the sweetest Philosopher that euer drew vitall breath, 20  
hPlato, that We are not borne for our selues onely, but that our countrie doth challenge one part of our birth, our parents another, and our friends the third.  
\* I meane captainly (if at the least it be lawfull to coyne such a word) that is, such as belongeth to the place of a Captaine: so that I deriue the word Ducall not from Dux, which signifieth a Duke, that is, a supreme or soueraigne lord 25  
of a Signiorie or free State, as the Duke of Florence, the Duke of Saxony &c. For the name of Duke I did not challenge it my selfe, in my Iouiall merriments, although a worshipfull friend of mine greeted me with the religious title of the great Duke of Charity, but more properly from Dux which signifieth a  
Captaine in warre which word commeth from Duco, that signifieth to lead 30  
an armie or a band of souldiers.†\*

Taxe mee not, Confederates, of arrogancy, though I doe according as the nature of my place and office doth require. For euen as it behoueth euery prouident and prudent Captaine to direct & instruct his souldiers in those 35  
things that are to be done, and to forbid them those things that are not to be done: so I by vertue of my \*Ducal authority, which is a dignitie that I haue receiued at this time, not by way of vsurpation, bur by imposition, (for by the generall consent and suffrages of you all it was imposed vpon me) by vertue

1/ Atticis leporibus: *literally, 'with Attic pleasantries'*

i Valerius  
*Maximus* libro  
 4. rerum  
 memorabilium.  
 Tullius in 1.  
 Philippica.  
 Xenophon  
 historia Græca.  
 3. libro 7.  
*Iustinus* libro 5.  
 Diodorus  
 Siculus libro 14.  
 historicæ  
 Bibliothecæ.

k Augustinus de  
 Ciuitate Dei.

I say of my Ducall authority I command you some things, and prohibit you some other things. The things that I command you are these. First a I mutuall obliuion of all iniuries whatsoever, euen from the beginning of the world till this present day, (if at the least any haue bene offered betwixt vs Odcombians and you Euillians) according to the imitation of that memorable ἡμνηστεία<sup>5</sup> of the Athenians, that is, an obliuion of wrongs, which was established by their valiant Captaine Thrasibulus, after the bloodie gouernment of the thirtie tyrants (who had most grievously dilaniated the whole State with very horrible massacres) was abrogated and defaced out of the Commonwealth of Athens. Secondly, friendly, louing, and harmelesse societie, ioyned with ciuill<sup>10</sup> and discreet merriments fit for this flourishing time of the yeare. Thirdly, a cheerfull spending of your mony without any base whinching or murmuring, for the emolument of your Church. The things that I prohibite you are these. Drunkennesse, swearing, brawling, picking of quarrels, lasciuious & obscene<sup>15</sup> comunicacion. For (according to Menanders speech), φείρουσιν ἥθη χρηστα ὀμίλῳ κακαί, that is, euill words corrupt manners. Finally, I forbid you to commit any enormous outrage, whereby we should scandalize our credit, and make our selues infamous in our country. For these foresaid matters besecme rather the wanton feasts of the goddesse kFlora, or god Bacchus the patron of drunkards, which were celebrated a-lmongst the barbarous Paynims,<sup>20</sup> then the sober solemnities of godly and religious Christians.

But whereas at the beginning of my Oration I called you Confederates, (which word signifieth those that are vnited and combined together in a league of friendship) not because ye are so already, but for that I hope yee will be so: I hold it expedient to vnfolde vnto you the ceremonies which were heretofore<sup>25</sup> obserued in ancient times at the making of leagues, and to declare the custome which I would haue you now vse touching this present league betweene vs. It was the custome of the ancient Romanes as <sup>1</sup>Liue their most peerelesse and incomparable Historiographer doth record) that a certaine Herald of armes should at the Kings commandement take an hearbe in his hand, and<sup>30</sup>

5/ ἡμνηστεία: for ἡμνηστεία

5-7m/ Valerius ... memorabilium: Valerius Maximus, Factorum et Dictorum Memorabilium Libri 4.1, Ext. 4

8-9m/ Tullius in 1. Philippica: Cicero, Philippic 1.1.1

9-10m/ Xenophon ... libro 7: Xenophon, Hellenica 2

11m/ Iustinus libro 5: Iustinus, Epitome 5.7-10, especially 5.10.1-11

12-14m/ Diodorus ... Bibliothecæ: Diodorus Siculus, Bibliotheca 14.1-6, 32-3

15/ Menanders speech: Fragment 187 Koerte (218 Kock) from the lost Thais

19-20m/ Augustinus ... Dei: Augustine, De Civitate Dei 2.27

28m/ Decade 3: Adaptation of Livy, Ab Urbe Condita 1.24.7-8; cp Polydore Vergil, De Rerum Inventoribus 2.15 ((Lyons, 1558), 130)

strike an Hog with a flint stone, pronouncing these words. Sic à loue feriat  
 is, qui sanctum hoc fregeret foedus, vt ego hunc porcum ferio: that is, I pray  
 that Iupiter may so strike him that shall violate this holy league, as I now  
 strike this present Hogge. But Polybius the Arcadian historian affirmeth in  
 his third booke of Histories, where he treateth of a league that was concluded  
 betwixt the Romans and the Carthaginians, that there was another rite. For  
 he saith thus. As soone as the conditions of the league were agreed on betwixt  
 the parties, a certaine herauld of arms I took a stone in his hand, and vttered  
 these words: If I make this league without any guile or deceit, I pray the goddes  
 to giue mee most happie successe in my affaires. But if I doe, or as much as  
 thinke otherwise then according to the couenants of the league, I wish that  
 all the rest being sau'd, I onely may perish, euen as this stone shall by and  
 by fall out of my handes: and therewithall hee presently flung away the stone.  
 As for the <sup>m</sup>Arabians, whensoever they contracted confederacy with any  
 forraine nation, one standing in the midst betwixt both the Ambassadors,  
 strooke with a certaine sharpe stone the palmes of the handes of them that  
 were to make the league, euen about their greater fingers, & incontinently  
 taking a peece of flocks out of the garments of both the Ambassadors,  
 annoynted seuen stones that were put in the midst of them, with the blood  
 that issued out of their hands; and all the while they were occupied about this  
 ceremonie, they inuocated Dionysius and Vrania. This being done, hee that  
 was the mediator of making the league betwixt the friends, ingaged his credit,  
 as suertie for the stranger: which league they also thought good to obserue  
 that contracted friendship and familiaritie together. These and such like sundrie  
 formes of making leagues there were heretofore amongst the ancient Pagans,  
 according to their seuerall and distinct nations. But we setting aside these  
 superstitious rites, as being for many ages past growen stale and out of date,  
 will vnite our selues in the league of loue, especially for this time, onely by the  
 ioyning of our bands together, a token very sufficient to ratifie an euerlasting  
 and inuiolable vnion betwixt vs. Let vs not imitate the Foedifrage (that is the  
 league-breaking) Carthaginians, who for their most execrable infidelity haue  
 bene branded by many classically historiographers with the infamous marke  
 of eternall dishonour, and infamie; Insomuch that Punica fides, that is, the  
 faith of the Carthaginians, is prouerbially vsed for all imaginable treachery,

m Polydorus  
 Virgilius libro  
 3. capitulo 15.  
 de rerum  
 inuentoribus.

Erasmus in  
 Adagio  
 Chiliadi 1.

4-5/ Polybius ... Histories: *Polybius, Histories* 3.22-6, especially 3.25.6-9; cp *Polydore Vergil, De Rerum Inventoribus* 2.15 (p 130)

14-17m/ Polydorus ... inuentoribus: *Polydore Vergil, De Rerum Inventoribus* 2.15 (p 130)

21/ Dionysius: for Dionysus(?)

30-2m/ Erasmus ... 1: *Desiderius Erasmus, Adagiorum Chiliades under Inconstantiae, Perfidiae, Versutiae* ((Frankfurt, 1599), cols 886-7)

and disloyalty. But rather let vs in our thoughts, in our words, and in our deeds, firmly and sincerely establish this present league not onely we that are here present during our liues, but also posterity for many succeeding generations after vs, to whom let vs now consecrate the memory hereof. But what mean I to expatiate so far beyond the bounds of the time I limited my self? wel then I wil recall my selfe, and now at length draw together the sailes of this my rude & inelegant Oration. For I perceiue that I do euen cloy your eares with such an heap of *confused* words. Wherefore *summarily* to shut vp al in a word, I most heartily desire you all to take in good part I this my naked and slender Oration, considering that I am no professed Orator, nor an affected Rhetorician, to whom it belongs to paint out his speeches with filed phrases, curious circumquaques, and rhetorical insinuations; but I am rather a man of armes, and a souldier. Therefore ye ought to expect the lesse at my hands. Neuerthelesse if in this my speech I haue deliuered any documents that are worthy the obseruation, put them I pray you in execution with all alacritie.

## DIXI.

sigs F3-[G3]\*

THIS ORATION FOL-  
lowing I pronounced at Odcombe to  
the Euillians when they came  
home to vs.

\*At the pronouncing of this word, a volley of shot was discharged by twenty Musketers.

DEere Associates, we entertaine you with a whole \*volley of most heartie thanks, partly for the bountifull and magnificent entertainment yee lately afforded vs at your towne, and partly for that yee haue satisfied our expectation by reuisiting vs according to your faithfull promise, for the reliefe of our Church. Truly we ingenuously confesse that yee Euillians haue iustly merited our euerlasting loue, in that ye being oppidaners (that is, townesmen) borne, brought vp, and dwelling in a rich, populous, and fertile towne, dotated with ancient charters and priuiledges, yea liuing in so fat a l soyle, that it doth euen flow with milke and honey, doe vouchsafe vs your poore confederates the Odcombians of this fauour, as to visite vs with such a troope of the most selected persons of your towne; vs I say the Odcombians, being a rurall and mountanous people, dwelling vpon a hilly and sterill countrie, and wanting many comfortable helpes of life, which both Nature and Art haue most abundantly powred out vpon you. Neuerthelesse because it shall not be thought

1/ let vs: *blind impression of t*  
10/ affected: *for affected*

23-4/ the ... vs.: *in italic except for Euillians*  
26/ DEere: *large ornamental capital D*



In Epistola  
ad Mæcænatem.

20

25-6/ Croton ... Grecia: Crotone, Italy

c Cambden in  
Herefordshire

d Stephanus  
de vrbibus.  
Pomponius  
Mela. libro 1.  
Strabo vulgo  
Melazo.

e Plinius libro  
2. capitulo 85.

for the singular finenesse thereof, that we dare boldly auouch, that no place  
whatsoever in England yeeldeth better sauing onely cLemster in Hereford-  
shire. Neither surely is this a thing of the least importance to ennoble our  
Parish. For euen as dMiletus which was in times past the verie Queene of the  
Cities of Ionia in Greece, and the mother of almost fourescore Colonies, grew  
no lesse famous for the singularity of her wooll, which was distracted into  
diuers regions & quarters of the world, then for her pleasant situation, and  
the statelinesse of her sumptuous buildings: So Odcombe (not that I make  
any iust comparison betwixt the glorious citie of Miletus and our little parish,  
being but as it were an handfull in respect thereof) ought to be much the  
better regarded, by reason of so worthy an helpe that it ministreth to couer  
mans nakednesse. The third is the conspicuous eminencie of our Church,  
being erected vpon so loftie a place, that it ouerprieth and ouertoppeth the  
whole countrie round about it; euen as that notable Ægyptian watchtower  
called cPharos neere to Alexandria, which was built by Ptolomæus Philadelphus  
vpon so eminent an hill, that it overlooked the whole circumiacent country.  
And truly this our Church deserueth commendation in consideration both of  
the nobility of l the founder, being one Moritonius an Earle of Normandie,  
that came into this land (as I haue heard) with William the Conqueror; and  
also of the antiquitie. For it is at the least fiue hundred yeares agoe since the  
first foundation thereof was laid. The fourth is the varietie of our sweet and  
wholsome springs, distributed by the prouident artifice of nature into sundrie  
conuenient places of our parish, as well for the delight as the vtility of our  
inhabitants, and endued with that orient and Cristalline cleerenesse, together  
with the singular effects most inseparably therunto adioyned, that we may  
presume to compare them with whatsoeuer fountains are reputed the excellentest  
in our whole country. The fift and last is that which shall (I hope) encourage  
you to perseuere most constantly in your league, namely, our vnity & perfect  
loue amongst our selues; for we all from the verie highest to the lowest are  
most firmly knit together in an indissoluble knot of friendship. It fareth not  
with vs as it doth oftentimes with citizens and townsmen. For they are eftsoones  
so enraged and inflamed with the burning zeale of ambition, that they foster  
many turbulent factions, and oppose themselues in such virulent and hostile  
manner against each other, that now and then there fall out most grieuous  
broyles and mutinies betwixt them, where-lby the strength of their societies  
is the sooner weakened and dissolved: but wee Odcombiens conioyne our

2m/ Cambden in Herefordshire: *William Camden, Britannia 2nd ed (London, 1587), pp 406–7 (STC: 4504)*

4m/ Stephanus de vrbibus: *Stephen of Byzantium, 'Εθναία under Μίλητος*

5m/ Pomponius Mela libro 1: *Pomponius Mela, De Chorographia 1.17 (86)*

6m/ Strabo: *Strabo, Geography 12.8.16 (?)*

15m/ Plinius ... 85: *Pliny the Elder, Naturalis Historia 36.18.83*

18/ Moritonius an Earle of Normandie: *Robert, count of Mortain, half-brother of William the Conqueror*

selues together in one; euen as the members in mans bodie without any emulation, or repining at each others prosperous estate, and dispose our affections as a well-tuned harmonie, that they neuer suffer any iarring discord. So that by this sympathie of our neighbourly loue wee waxe the stronger, and become euen inexpugnable to our enemies, if at the least wee haue any. 5  
 Heerein wee follow the wise counsaile of that sage Scythian <sup>f</sup>Scylurus, who being on his death bed called to him all his sonnes, which were in number fourescore, to all whom seuerally one after another hee deliuered a sheafe of arrowes bound vp together, commaunding them to breake those arrowes as they were so bound; they tried, but were not able to doe it. Whereupon hee 10  
 tooke the sheafe againe into his owne handes, and hauing loosed the bond, hee easily brake all those shaftes being sundred one from another, which hee could not doe, when they were bound together. By which token hee intimated to them that they should bee strong and inuincible, as long as they perseuered in the bond of vnitie, but should quickly come to vtter ruine and destruction, 15  
 if by their priuate I dissentions they were diuided asunder. Therefore, louing Confederates, imitate vs Odcombian in this our vnitie, so that not onely yee your selues may cherish and embrace mutuall loue amongst your selues, but also that yee and wee ioyntly together may expresse such sinceritie of friendshippe, by reason of this late league confirmed betwixt vs, that wee may 20  
 bee as it were one fraternitie, one neighbourhoode.

Now if any shall reprehend mee of partialitie, for attributing so much to my natiue countrey, which seemeth indeede in outward shewe but a verie obscure and ignoble place: I heartily craue pardon for my presumption in this behalfe, being by so much the more pardonable, by how much the lesse 25  
 I did euer illustrate my countrey with any condigne prayes heretofore in all my life till this present time. Desiring my countrey-men also the Odcombian to take this my present speech as a sufficient satisfaction and recompence in lieu of my long silence of Odcombe, for whose good and safetie, I hope I shall bee as readie to expose my bodie to any perils, (if opportunitie shall so 30  
 require) yea, (which is more) to powre out my dearest vitall blood, as euer was noble gCodrus for his Countrey of Athens, I hMarcus Curtius for Rome, or the famous Ladie Androclea for Thebes.

As concerning the entertainment which ye expect at our hands, pardon vs we pray you, though we requite you not with a correspondent proportion 35  
 both in manner and matter like vnto yours. For we want those meanes to expresse our bountie towards you, as yee oppidanen are plentifully furnished withall. But this wee will assure you, that the defect of your entertainment shall bee most abundantly supplied with the integrity of our heartie loue

6m/ Plutarchus: *Plutarch*, *Moralia* 511C  
 32–3m/ Iustinus ... 6: *Iustinus*, *Epitome* 2.6.16–21  
 34m/ Liuius Decade: *Liuy*, *Ab Urbe Condita* 7.6.1–6

35–6m/ Pausanias ... Boeoticorum: *Pausanias*,  
 Description of Greece 9.17.1

and affection. Truly wee haue neither Bulles, nor Beares, nor Apes that are wont sometimes to be beaten vpon skittish iades, nor any such things to shew you, for the sight wherof together with the most peeuish pastimes that they yeeld to their spectators, many men are oftentimes drawn to vndertake long and chargeable iournies: but in steed thereof we shew you our men, that like valiant Martialists present themselues vnto you with their warlike munition, some with partizans, some with those remorselesse and mercilesse instruments which were for almost seuen score yeares agoe inuented by a certaine. <sup>k</sup>Germane as a pernicious bane of many millions of worthy men, I meane Muskets and Caliuers; and some other with swords, with all which weapons we Odcombians can (if neede re-lquireth) maintaine right, and repulse wrong: but these instruments which were made for the effusion of blood, we like peaceable men lay aside at the entertaining of you, and with our Laurell branches in our hands, which are the true ensignes of peace, most effectonately ambrace you as our deere friends.

But seeing I perceiue that the time doth impose silence vpon me, I will breake off further circumstances, which doe breed a tedious wearisomenesse to the eares of the hearers: and finally conclude my speech with this request, namely to intreate you all, and that most instantly, that yee would as louingly accept of this rurall entertainment, which our parish shal now yeeld you, as of luxurious and Epicurious delicacy, which Cities and townes doe oftentimes afford their guesates; seeing kinde entertainment ought not so much to be measured by the curiositie of delicious cates, as by the vnfained welcome and entire beneuolence of the inuiting friends.

DIXI  
FINIS

c 1607

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 13, pt 2  
f 158\* (c 14 April)

*Jury presentment for Houndsborough hundred*

William Micheall & Robert Phillipson Constables

...

Item we do present that thomas nehellen do kepe a bayteng bull and that one Iohn allwaye of the same tything of obtcombe do also kepe a bayting bull and the day and tyme when they have bayted them last but we knowe [not] that they caried them about the Country to be beaten

vacat *pro*  
*insufficiencia*  
*per ordinem*  
Curie

# OLD CLEEVE

1614

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 184

f 135\* (17 May)

5

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Methuyn, STB, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

10

*Officium domini contra Gregorium Hobbs*

ffor keepeing minstrells in his howse drincking on the saboth day att the time of divine prayer./ Citatus fuit per eundem 9<sup>o</sup> maij instantis etc. Quo die comparuit dictus Hobbs, quem dominus iuramento oneravit, ac monuit etc, qui in vim iuramenti sui examinatus respondet & fassus est crimen &c submittendo se &c, vnde similiter actum fuit &c prout in actu [prox] precedenti &c contra Thomam ffarmer etc quem vult extendi etc.

15

*Officium domini contra Willimum Wattes*

Pro eodem delicto./ Quesitus fuit per eundem 7<sup>o</sup> maij instantis etc. Quo die comparuit dictus Wattes quem dominus iuramento oneravit etc, ac monuit &c, et deinde similiter actum fuit per omnia &c prout in actu precedenti contra Thomam ffarmer alias Similiter quem vult extendi &c./

20

...

25

1619/20

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 55

ff [49–9v]\* (8 March) (Deposition of John Hurford, husbandman, aged 53)

*Taken before Arthur Duck in his house in the presence of John Atwell, notary public*

30

...

Ad secundum articulum Libelli predicti in vim iuramenti sui prestiti deponit et dicit that vpon a certen sonday happening about Mydsomer last past before this his examinacion as he remembreth, the daie and tyme otherwise he doth not now call to mynd yt chaunced that a somer lugg or somer pole being sett vp before the dore of tharticulate Iohn Abraham and a benche made round about the somer pole, this deponent and Hughe Beryman being there with the said Iohn Abraham and talking togethers l of merrynesse according to the time yt so fell out that tharticulate Marie Bindon came alonge by them in the streate And shee being there righte before them the said Iohn Abraham burst out in angrie specches against the said Marie Bindon althoughe shee saluted

35

40

13, 20/ eundem, eundem: Lawrence Stone, a summoner

23/ Similiter: 3 minims in MS

the company and said god speede yat the said Abrahame replied to her and said goe hoore goe hoore and therevpon shee desired <sup>^</sup>her gossipp<sup>1</sup> Hughe Beryman and Iohn Hurford this deponent to beare witnes of the words....

## PAWLETT

1587

*Ex Officio and Instance Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 78

f [7]\* (11 May)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the parish church of Banwell before Thomas Godwin, bishop of Bath and Wells, and John Daye, LL.D, chancellor, in the presence of Robert Whithorne, notary public*

Officium domini merum contra Iohannem Cornish de Pawlett.  
decretum erat Thomam hardacre Iohannem Williams Edwardum Smythes  
Willelmum Clerk Iohannem Clerk Georgium ffyrankyn et Robertum Nicholles  
clericum Vicarium de puriton

Quo die comparuit Iohannes Williams quem dominus interrogauit [super] dicit That [Pap] he heard the said Iohn Cornishe saie at a table <sup>^</sup>in Pawlet<sup>1</sup> That [if] the Papistes [t] yf they might be heard had more to saye for them sealves viz in defence of Poperie then <sup>1</sup>they<sup>1</sup> [wee] were a ware of.

Iohannes Smyth et Edwardus Smythes <sup>^</sup>Willelmus Clerk<sup>1</sup> affirmarunt articulum detectionis that the said Cornishe [di] redde [as it ar] in the sermon tyme vnreuerently as is detected

Iohannes  
macham  
de Powlett  
vocetur.

dictus Iohannes Cornishe fatetur That he did sett vpp the may pole in the steeple or tower of the church which he did vt dicit for a meryment, and savegard of the may pole from stealing vt dicit./  
deinde domino obijciendo [fatetur th that] articulum detectionis quoad the three belcifes. fatetur that he said, that if he [said] had said it he wold for everie tyme that he had said it he wold saie it twyse againe./

Tunc dominus Episcopus decreuit That he enter bond to the Quenes maiestie in the some of xl li. for his personale apparence to be made byfor the Archbishop of Canterbury his grace & other his colleagues her highnesses [s(.)] commissioners for causes ecclesiasticall at lambyth or elles wher he shalle resort the xvijth

daie of this instant may [&c] & not to depart without lycence &c which bond being tendered vnto him doth refuse to seale/

Postea sigillauit ac deinde cancellauit dominus super petitione nonnullorum parochianorum iam facta dominus continuauit negotium huiusmodi donec latius constiterit de vitæ <sup>h</sup> religionis<sup>1</sup> emendatione et reformatione &c presertim in (...) et ad (...) et certificandum [vocentur] [hoc die] die Iouis proximo post festum sancte Trinitatis proximum et ad audiendum eius vltiorem voluntatem

vocentur Edwardus Pirry et Iohannes Bennett gardianos de Pawlet touching the setting vpp of a may pole in die lune proximo &c./

...

## PENSELWOOD

1622/3

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 226

f 143v\* (4 February)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Robert Withers, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

*Officium domini contra Henricum Botwell*

ffebuarij  
nsule m  
illoughbie

ffor most prophanelie [bi] daunsinge vppon a sabboath daie within this quarter of a year last past all service tyme Mr Willoughbie/ citetur in proximum

...

1623

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 58

f [8]\* (8 April–17 June) (Deposition of Walter Willis, linen weaver, aged 35)

...

Ad detectionem predictam in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit, et dicit that vppon a saboth daie hapning neere about St Iames tyde nowe last past before this his examinacion (vt modo tempus recolit) his contest Iohn Palmer was married, & deposeth that after dynner was ended the detected Henrie Botwell & other companie beeing att the said wedding did daunce, some times one parte of the companie & some times an other all <sup>h</sup> or the greatest part of<sup>1</sup> the after noone, but cannott expresselie saie that the said Botwell did daunce in the verie time of evening prayer, but deposeth that to his this deponentes certaine knoweledge the said Botwell was theare vzt att the brydchouse all the after

2/ doth: for he doth

9/ gardianos: for gardiani

33/ St Iames tyde: 25 July and the week following

noone, & went not vnto the church att evening prayer time: Et aliter nescit deponere./.

...

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 234

ff 84, 83v\* (17 June)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Methuyn, STB, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

Officium domini contra Henricum Bottwell

73

po

10 Iulij

decretum fuit quendam Henricum Smithe de eadem citandum fore in hunc diem ad testificandum &c In penam contumacie Bottwell non comparente &c./ Quo die comparuit dictus Botwell in cuius presentia comparuit dictus Henricus Smith quem dominus iuramento oneravit &c de fideliter deponendo &c ac monuit &c ad subeundum eius examen super articulis citra proximum: I deinde in pomeridiano diei predicti comparuit dictus Botwell ac fassus est that hee daunced vppon a sabboath daie att eueninge prayer tyme by means whereof hee was then absent from prayers: vnde dominus iniuxit ei ad agnoscendum eius delictum in cancello ecclesie parochialis ibidem die dominico proximo cotam ministro gardianis et 6. alijs parochianis ibidem et ad certificandum in quindenam necnon ad l ad solvendum 4 s. 4 d. pro expensis [contra eundem] [taxatis] eodem die

f 99\* (23 June)

Officium domini contra Walterum [Ellis] Willis

[23] 10 Iulij

Denuntiatur domino Iudicanti that they daunced on a sabboth day at the tyme of evening prayer by meanes whereof they weare absente from prayers, hapninge neere aboute twelue monethes agon: Henricus Bottwell de eadem informavit, °Citetur in proximum°

Officium domini contra Willimum Still seniore

Pro eodem delicto./

°Citetur in proximum°

[23] 10 Iulij

Officium domini contra Willimum Still iuniorem

Pro eodem delicto./

°Citetur in proximum°

[23] 10 Iulij

...

14m/ 73: 3 corrected from 2

17l monuit: corrected by cancelling 6th minim

20l iniuxit: for iniunxit; abbreviation mark missing

22l ad l ad: dittography



## PENSFORD

1611

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 44

f [184v]\* (15 October) (Examination of John Maggs, gentleman, aged 40) 5

*Taken before Anthony Methuyn, cleric, surrogate judge*

...

Ad secundum [(...)] 3. 4. *articulos* in vim iuramenti examinatus deponit et  
 dicit that this examin<sup>at</sup> hath knowne the articulated Raynold Prickett and 10  
 Ioane Pri<sup>k</sup>ett <sup>λ</sup>parentes of the articulated Agnes<sup>1</sup> for thease xxx<sup>ty</sup> yeeres now  
 laste paste or therabout for poore people, he being and having byn by all  
 that tyme a poore taylor, and [(...)]<sup>an</sup> he and his wiffe of verie smalle or noe  
 accompte <sup>λ</sup>in the place of theire dwelling<sup>1</sup> he having somtymes ben<sup>1</sup> [<sup>λ</sup>& (...)]<sup>1</sup>  
 a minstrelle And by reporte he hath noe more goodes and chattls then a little 15  
 house and garden <sup>λ</sup>and som househould stuff<sup>1</sup>...

ff [185–5v] (Examination of William Cox of Chelwood, gentleman, aged 45)

...

Ad 1. secundum 3. quartum et 5. *articulos* excepcionum predictarum in vim 20  
 Iuramenti examinatus deponit et dicit that the articulated Raynold Prickett  
 and his wiffe Ioane Prickett haue byn verie poore people for thease xxx<sup>ty</sup>  
 yeeres now last paste and soe are, [him] he gettinge his livinge partlye by  
 beinge a Minstrell and partlye by his Taylores crafte And within thes moneth  
 last he came to thes Examinantes house about three quarters of a myle from 25  
 Pensford and prayed this deponent that he would Com over to his house to a  
 Bedale to help him (beinge as he sayed in neede & want) And this examin<sup>ant</sup>  
 denyed him soe to doe, for that he and his wiffe did suffer theire children to  
 spend lewdlie that little they gott (as thes examin<sup>ant</sup> then told him. And  
 farther saieth that the saide Raynold and his wiffe have byn duringe all the 30  
 tyme aforesaide people of noe accompte amongst l the grave and credible  
 inhabitantes in and about Pensford articulated....

...

## PILTON

35

1586/7

*Chapter Act Book H* WCL*See Croscombe 1586/7*

40

1610/11

*Act Book for Precentor's Peculiar* SRO: D/D/Ca 162A  
f 44\* (9 February)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the usual consistory of Wells Cathedral next to the clock before Richard Boughton, STB, cleric, precentor, in the presence of John Atwell, notary public and registrar*

...

Item *presentatur* for that the vicar hath made rymes and lewd songes and deliverid them vnto others to be songe to the great discontentment of the people

Quo die *comparuit dictus* Gibbs cui *dominus* obiecit *presentamentum* predictum quod ipse penitus negauit esse verum Vnde *dominus* monuit eum ad interessendum in proximo ad audiendum vlterio rem processum etc

23 februaryj

...

## PITCOMBE

1615

*Compert Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 191  
f [43]\* (9 October)

...

*contra* Thomam Steevens et Willielmum La(.) <sup>^</sup>[gardianos] *ibidem*  
*Presentatur* for that theie *procured* the Minstrells to playe in the churchyard, and the people daunced there Item *presentatur* that the window in the Northsid of their chauncell is in defaulte for want of glazinge, the ladye Bark(...) beinge ffarmer thereof.

scribatur

18 d.

[e]

3 Novembris

dimissio./

°*Citatus per eundem* [1]7:° octobris *predicti* &c. Quo die *comparuerunt* et obiecto *presentamento* fassi sunt etc submittendo se etc, e(.) *habent* ad agnoscendum eorum examen coram ministro, gardianis et 6. alijs *parochianis* 3 Novembris 1615. coram magistro Withers cleric(.) &c surrogato &c introducto *certificatio* in scriptis super *peraccione penitentie* &c, eodemque visu &c *dominus* approbavit &c et dictos *gardianos* ab officio in hac parte dimisit./°

*contra* [Iacobum Clifford] Iohannem Pinnye

*Presentatur* ffor that he did strike and (...) James Clifford the same daie in the churc(.)yard.

3 Novembris

excommunicatio./

°*Citatus per eundem* 23° septembris etc Quo die *reservata* 3 Novembris *predicti* coram dicto magistro Withers &c *comparuit*, et obiecto *presentamento* etc *fassus* est &c et *pronunziatur* incidisse in *penam* statuti &c°

## PITMINSTER

1635

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 309

f 6\* (December)

5

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of St Mary Magdalene's Church, Taunton, before Dr Revett and William Hunt, cleric, surrogate judges*

...

10

*Contra Augustinum* Butcher

ffor being absent from church on the sondaie, spendeing theire time in daunceing  
*Similiter* &c

Quo die comparuit, & iuratus &c, respondet, & [fas] negavit &c: [Vnde dominus]  
 Deinde fassus est that hee did daunce both forenoone, & afternoone, beeing  
 not att evening prayer that day. Vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad agnoscendum  
 eius culpam coram ministro, gardianis, & [&c] alijs &c:

*Contra Aliceam* Butcher*Similiter* &c

20

Quo die comparuit, & fassa est that shee did daunce as aforesaid: <sup>1</sup>after  
 evening prayer being not att prayer: <sup>1</sup>Vnde similiter &c

*Contra Elinoram* Butcher*Similiter* &c. Quo die comparuit

25

## PORTISHEAD

1637

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 315

f 57\* (1 August)

30

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral  
 before Arthur Duck, LL.D, vicar general, and William Hunt, cleric, surrogate judge,  
 in the presence of James Huishe, notary public and registrar*

35

...

*Officium domini contra Iohannem* Morrice, et *Richardum* Barrie *gardianos*  
*ibidem*

ffor suffringe ffives playeinge, daunceing, [and] Cudgill playeinge, and fightinge  
 in the churchyard there [vsr] vsually. Cooke Citentur

40

...

1640

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 334

f 14 (19 May)

*Proceedings of the afternoon session held in Wells Cathedral in the episcopal consistory before William Woodhouse, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Alexander Jett, notary public and deputy registrar*

...

Contra Phillippum Covie

Remanet excommunicatus in non comparendo

folia 199: libri 31

18 d. absolutio

4 d.

6 d.

18 d. dimissio

2 Iunij

Quo die Comparuit et absolutus fuit prius iurato de parendo Iuri, et stando mandatis ecclesiæ &c Deinde iuratus de respondendo respondet et [negavit deteccionem esse veram: vnde d] fassus est that he was one sonndaie in the last summer att one Peter Reynolds howse there reddie to playe on his vyan to the youth of the parische & was absent then from euening prayer: vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad agnoscendum eius delictum in cancello ecclesie parochialis ibidem die dominico proximo coram ministro gardianis et septem alijs parochianis ibidem, et ad certificandum in proximo &c/

## PRISTON

1588

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 85

f [102]\* (2 October)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in Wrington parish church before John Daye, ILD, official principal, in the presence of Robert Owen, notary public*

...

Sowthestoke

Officium domini contra Thomam Smithe

presentatur yat hee with others contemptuouslie abused mr wattes parson of Priston, carryinge a load of boughes for a somer hall by the churchyard of Priston at sermon time, & beinge requested by the wardens & mr wattes to leaue theire vanities, & comme to heare godes worde preached refused soe to doe, to the ill exampell of others

Quesitus fuit eodem die per eundum mandatarium super quo fidem fecit &c. Quo die dominus decreuit eum citandum fore vijs et modis erga proximum casu quo personali Citatione apprehendi nequeat

Ibidem

Officium domini contra Laurentium Smithe aliter millard.

presentatur pro eodem crimine

Quo die comparuit dictus Smithe Cui dominus obiecit presentacionem, qui respondendo fassus est esse veram sed non deridendo. Vnde dominus iniunxit

ei penitentiam sequentem vz that on sundaye next before master Parson, the  
ij Churchwardens & viij of the substantiall men of the parishe at the time of  
common prayer in Sowthestoke hee confesses his faulte iuxta tenorem shedule  
sibi tradende, et ad certificandum in proximol

...

5

f [168]\* (13 November)

Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before  
John Daye, LL.D, official principal, and in the presence of Robert Owen, notary  
public and registrar 10

...

Officium domini contra Willelmum Evans  
presentatur vt patet contra Thomam Smithe precedentem  
Similiter/ dimissus fuit antea 15

...

PUBLOW

1639

20

Ex Officio Act Book SRO: D/D/Ca 330

f 17\* (11 June)

...

Officium domini contra Edwardum Magges seniore  
ffor that hee did in the Chauncell there att the time when hee was chosen  
bee<sup>l</sup> warden there [hee] in a most audacious manner speake vnto his partner  
[fo] lohn (blank) these wordes following, or the like in effect Thou art a Baker,  
& I am a brewer, [kh] thou keepe a bare, & I will keepe a bull, & wee will [ba]  
keepe a church ale, and because people shall haue sporte enough for their  
monie wee will haue a shum meaninge a whoare. 25

Wade ex ore <sup>l</sup>magistri Balme<sup>l</sup> Citetur 30

...

QUEEN CHARLTON

35

1603

Compert Book SRO: D/D/Ca 134

f [174v] (16 September)

Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before  
Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Robert Owen, notary public 40

Officium domini contra Willimam Battell

Presentant for keeping dauncing and an abominable disorder in hes howse the  
vjth of ffebruary being sondaye in the tyme of prayer and catachising

° Quesitus eodem per eundem vijs° ° Executa super valuis ecclesiæ 24  
Septembris°

...

° ultimo septembris  
excommunicatio  
absolutio et  
dimissio in  
libro ex officio°

## SAMPFORD ARUNDEL

1611

*Consistory Court Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 170

f 23v\* (25 June)

*Proceedings of the morning session held before Dr James in the presence of Edward  
Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

contra Thomam Ordewe

excommunicatio

ffor a misrule on the sabboth day [car] helping to carrye Roger White on a  
ladder to ye waters side and theare tooke water in his hand & putt it 3 or 4  
tymes on his head, deluding theare by the sacrament of baptisme, this dirision  
was donne by Robert Greedye de eadem Instructiones penes filacium.  
Citetur per Smith 27 die instantis Iunij etc. Quo die (blank)

[In papiro.]

...

## SAMPFORD BRETT

1601

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 123

f 205\* (16 June)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony  
Eglesfield, cleric, MA, surrogate judge, in the presence of Robert Owen, notary public  
and principal registrar*

...

Officium domini contra Magistrum Thomam Blynman Rectorem ibidem  
Quo die comparuit personaliter dictus Blynman et allegavit se ex improviso  
et subito non animo eum iniuriando ad tunc ductum manus violentas in  
quendam Iohannem Richardes Sancti decumani playing at may games with a  
hobby horse in the Churchyard and putting in feare the children and infantes  
of the said mr Blynman and others and otherwise playing his partes, contrary  
to comon Civility and good government, and refusing to be ordered and to  
surcease from his Course in those follyes by the admonicions of the said mr

8 d. 15 d.

14 d. 12 d/

ultimo Iunij

emanat copia  
actus

Blynman being a preacher '[...]' he the said mr Blynman being in his parishe churchyard of Sandfordbirt aforesaid did strike him or the hobby horse wheruppon he rode disguised being moved therunto by the shakeing and trembling of the said children whome he putt in feare. Vnde submisit se correctioni Iuris et domini Iudicantis in hac parte vnde dominus pronuntiavit eum incidisse in penam statuti et Canonum et decreuit eum pro excommunicato publice denuntiandum fore iuxta formam dicti statuti editi et provisi Quo facto dictus Blynman submittendo se vt supra similiter petijt beneficium absolutionis ab excommunicatione huiusmodi sibi impendendi sesque restitui &c Vnde dominus ex eo quod ei manifestum constabat dictum Blynman fuisse et esse sacri verbi dei predicatorem et legitime dispensatum et ad premissa iusta ira et occasione motum Eum ab excommunicatione predicta tactis per eum primitus sacrosanctis dei Evangelijs absoluit &c et restituit &c et iniunxit ei specificè ad confitendum suum in hac parte delictum coram parochianis suis die dominico proximo [coram paroch] et ad certificandum vltimo Iunij et [condemnavit]

## SELWORTHY

1609

20

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 159  
f 357\* (14 November)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Methuyn, MA, STB, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

Officium domini contra Henricum Rendall alias druller  
ffor playing with his harpe on a sonday hapning in August last past tempore  
divinorum. Sturton Citetur in proximum secundum.

Novemberis]  
cembris

...

## SHEPTON MALLET

1608

35

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 156A  
f 244\* (23 August)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before*

9/ seque: for seque(?)

29/ Sturton: expansion conjectural

*Edward Tynes, MA, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

*Officium domini contra Margeriam Pelly*

20 septembris

ffor that shee knowing that one (*blank*) hee which goeth about with a horse commonlie called the dauncing horse, tooke a young woman a kinswoman of hers of the same *parishe* or theareabouts named (*blank*) and lay with her theare, and brought her to welles, and theare lay with her made her his concubine, and vsed her as his wief, naming her his wief, and the said Pilly being att welles with them said they had bin man & wief for half a yeere before, notwithstanding shee kneewe her to bee his whore. And so shee travelleth the countrie with her

*Citetur in proximum.*

...

## SKILGATE

1592

*Bill of Complaint in Sydenham v. Sydenham* PRO: STAC 5/S61/12  
single mb\* (6 November)

To the Quenes moste Excellente maiestie

In moste humble wise complaynethe shewethe and enfor(.)eth vnto your heighnes your maiesties trewe faithfull and obediante Subiecte Roger Sydenham of Northquarum in your heighness countie of Somerset gentleman That whereas your said Subiecte is and by the space of diuers yeares now paste hath ben lawfull and sworn Ranger of your heighnes fforest of Axmoore in your maiesties Countie of Somerset and devon within which fforeste there is and alwayes hath ben kepte and maintayned a game of Redd deare and if suche spoiles and distrucons as have ben of late often vsed wthin the said fforeste weare suppreste and A(.)ted the sa(.) (.) some encrease to a verrie greate & plentifull game of Redd deare. And whereas your said Subiecte has with Care to the performaunce of his duetie which to his foresaid office of Ranger belongeth and in respect of the othe he has taken for the due execucion thereof beinge done vnderstand of greate spoiles of your heighnes Redd deare (.) the saide fforeste lately comitted by one Humfry Sydenham esquier Robert Langham Richard Hurforde Iohn Langham Iohn Mylton alias fforde and others he your said Subiecte made knowen the same to Sir Iohn Poyntz knighte Chief fforrester and (.....) for the (.....) of the said fforest of Axmore and in



what motons sorte and mind it was done whervpon the said Sir Iohn Poyntz  
 hauinge also that especiall Care and regarde of preseruacion of your maiesties  
 said game in which in his place and office is required did in the tearme of  
 Saint Michael laste paste prefer in a bill of Complaint vnto this honorable  
 Courte against the said humfry Syd(...) Robert Langham Richard Hurford 5  
 and Iohn Langham and other the said offenders for the vnlawfull killinge  
 of your heighnes said deare and willed your said Subiecte to followe the said  
 Cause againste them accordinge to due course of Lawe vpon which bill proces  
 of Subpena weare awarded against them and served vpon them which they  
 contemptuously disobeyed and for punishment thereof attachementes from 10  
 this honorable Court weare ordered againste them; herevpon if it may like  
 your heighnes the said humfry Sydenham Roberte Langham Richard Hurforde  
 and Iohn Langham about the feast of the Birthe of our Lorde god last past  
 confederated themselues with one Humfry Quicke Edmund Horn(...) Iohn  
 Milton alias fforde and diuers others to your Subiecte vnknownen and by 15  
 practyce and confederacy amonge them it was agreed that there shoulde be a  
 bill of Complaint prefered vnto this moste honorable Court in the name of  
 the said Iohn Langham and Edmund horne as *plainants* against your said  
 Subiecte and diuers others which have ben ether Attorneys or sollicitors in the  
 presand suit and therein to contayne and inst(...) (...) and svndry misdemeanors 20  
 and by them supposed to be comitted and done being matters most vntrew  
 devised and conspired to be presented only of mallice to vex and charge your  
 said Subiecte and other of his friends which bill was so exhibited vnto this  
 court as to d(...)ly And for th(...) theis factes weare thoughte by them to be svche  
 as woulde require some greate charge as of necessity it muste to maintaine 25  
 and defende so badd causes, yt was then also devised and agreed amonge them  
 that a *certainne* Ale shoulde be made <sup>1</sup>without any license or authority<sup>1</sup> in  
 the name of some poore man and as thoughe it ware to relieve him to thende  
<sup>1</sup>lawfully<sup>1</sup> to draw and procure the people and inhabitantes of sundry *parishes*  
 theraboutes to come to the said Ale and there to expende diuers somes of 30  
 money which was in dede to no other ende but that suche benefitt and  
 comodytie as shoulde rise and comme by meane thereof shoulde be bestowed  
 and towardes the maintenance presentinge and settinge onwards of the said  
 suit so comenced in this honorable Courte by the said Langham and Horne  
 and your said subiecte and others beforemencioned and shoulde defray suche 35  
 fees and duties as shoulde be required in the same, which Ale the said Roberte  
 Langham Richard Hurford Iohn Langham and Iohn Milton and one Symon  
 Auten alias ffrogwell Thomas Awten alias ffrogwell and Richard Awten alias  
 ffrogwell <sup>1</sup>without any licence or aucthoryty<sup>1</sup> cause to be pl(ac)ed to be solde  
 in the Churchouse of the *parishe* of Skillgate in the said county of Somerset, 40

1/ motons: for motions; abbreviation mark missing

3/ in which in: first in redundant

of *which parishe your* said subiecte beinge then Churchwarden and disliking  
 of the putting of the said Ale in the said Churchouse did disir the same to be  
 removed and removinge thereof some of the said Ale became wasted After  
*which* tyme, they the said Roberte Langham Richard Hurforde and Iohn  
 Langham did in vearly riotous and disordered manner breake open the doores  
 of the said Churchouse, and did againe place there the foresaid Ale, or some  
 other about the quantyty of three or foure hundred gallons, and aboute Easter  
 laste past did sende vnto neare aboute sixtene or seaventene *parishe* Churches  
 neare vnto Skilgate aforesaid *certainne* notes in writinge directing the same to  
 the *parson*, vicar or curate of *euerie* of the said *parishes*, requiringe or willinge  
*euerie* of the said *parsons* vicars or curates openly in their Churches at the tyme  
 of devine *seruice*, vpon some sunday or hollyeday to signify and <sup>1</sup>vnlawfully  
 to make *proclamacion* vnto his *parishoners* that the said Roberte Langham  
 Richard Hurforde and Iohn Langham and others whose names weare collorably  
 vsed woulde request the *inhabitanes* of the said *parishes* to come and spende  
 their money at the foresaid Ale *which* was done in *euerie* of the said *parishe*  
 Churches accordingly; And further also in moste manifeste abuse of *your*  
 maiesties *seruice* the foresaid Humfry Sydenham a Captaine of a certeine  
 band of trained souldiers within *your* Highnes said county of Somerset about  
 the said ffeast of Ester last past did by the *procurement* and meanes of the  
 said Robert Langham Richard Hurforde and Iohn Langham sende for the  
 preceptes or comaundementes to all or the moste *parte* of the trained souldiers  
 of his band to appeare before him at Skilgate aforesaid with their furniture  
 to muster and therupon *diuers* of them to the great trouble and hinderance  
 of their other occasions of busines repaired to Skilgate aforesaid at that tyme,  
 whereas indede there was no sufficiente warrante or iuste cause why any  
 suche muster, at all shoulde be but beinge in this sorte assembled weare there  
 employed only in drinking of ale and for feare of their Captaines displeasure  
 stayed to spende money at the said Ale more then some of them hadd  
 gotten in a moneth before. the like whereof he, the said Humfry Sydenham  
 performed <sup>1</sup>at divers other tymes before that tyme in [or aboute] the twoe and  
 thirtieth and three and thirtieth yeares of her maiesties Raigne <sup>1</sup>& sithynce  
 her maiesties laste generall pardon, At all *which* seuerall<sup>1</sup> [att what] tymes  
 he the said Humfrey Sydenham did by his *Lettre* precept and warrant as a  
 Captaine of *certainne* trained souldiers within the said County sende for and  
 sommon aboute the nombre of one hundred men of his trained band with  
 their furniture and weapons to come to Duluerton in the said county of  
 Somerset to a bydale of one Iohn Glasse a *seruant* or frinde of the said Humfrey  
 Sydenham or of some other, vpon *which* *Lettre* warninge or somons the said  
 Company thither repaired accordingly and weare employed only in drincking  
 of ale & spending of their money in such sort as aforesaid. And vpon or aboute

the tuesday in Ester weeke laste past, beinge a hollyday the foresaid humfry  
 Quicke and others, etc. by a former appointment with the said Langhams  
 Hurford Awtens and the residue of that Confederacy did in vearly riotous  
 disordered and vnwonted manner in greate troupes and companyes to the  
 terror of the whole Country repaire from the Town of Taunton <sup>1</sup>& diuers other  
 places<sup>1</sup> vnto Skilgate aforesaid to the said Ales and brought there with them  
 diuers persons somany as they coulede by any meane procure, and as it was  
 before agreed the said Langhams Hurforde and other the said confederates  
 appointed one (*blank*) Milton sonne of the foresaid Iohn Milton to stand  
 vpon a hill neare vnto Skilgate churche where he might viewe almost a myle  
 from the same hill the coming of the said appointed companyes to thintent  
 that he might bring intelligence of theire comyng to the said Langhams and  
 Hurforde Mylton Awtens and <sup>1</sup>the said other<sup>1</sup> of the said confederates beinge  
 then in the said Church of Skilgate at the time of the devine seruice of purpose  
 that whensouer they came neare they would cause the divine seruice to be  
 surceased and the belles to be runge out with many other outragious partes,  
 which (*blank*) Milton so watching and attending to viewe as farr as he coulede  
 the comyng of the said companyes assone as he hadd espied a great nombre  
 of them comyng in suche sorte as before he came very vehemently ronning  
 into the said Church of Skilgate aforesaid the Curate then beinge with the  
 whole assemblie of the Parishsoners there evin in the myddest of devine  
 Seruice in the forenowne of the same day and in the beginning of his reading  
 of the homely then appointed to be redd and then and there the said (*blank*)  
 Milton, cried out with a lowde voice they are *convne* they are *comme* Mr  
 Langham Ringe out the bells wherevpon presently the said Roberte Langham  
 commanded the Curate to *surcease* seruice, and caused the bells of the *parishe*  
 Church there to be runge out, and diuers bagpipes to be blownen out to the  
 greate dishonour of almighty god and contempte of your maiesties lawes and  
 disturbance of the said devine service, and to the greate admyracion and evill  
 example of all the people there *presente* and the raising vpp of nombres of  
 people in the Cuntry about by this vnwonted ringing out of bells. and in this  
 outrageous and lawles manner went out of the said Church of Skilgate to  
 meete the said companyes so coming as before to go to drincke Ale; theis and  
 many other the like vnlawfull demeanors weare vsed in and aboute the selling  
 of the foresaid Ale and the *procuring* of Company to spende theire money  
 and with theis <sup>1</sup>[and other deuises]<sup>1</sup> deuises and other practises they by way  
 of exaction vpon your maiesties people haue leavyed to the some of or about  
 threescore Poundes <sup>1</sup>and haue also within one year now last past by confederacy  
 collected and geathered diuers other somes of money emonge themseules and  
 sundry othere confederates by way of maintenance<sup>1</sup> of purpose to be employed

1/ the tuesday in Ester weeke laste past: 28 March 1592

to the maintenance of suites against the foresaid Sir Iohn Poyntz & your said subiecte and their frendes All which now is and dayly hathe ben euer sithence by the said Roberte Langham Iohn Langham <sup>^</sup>[Edmond Horne] Humfrey Quicke Richard Hurford and Iohn Milton vsed spente and employed by way of maintenance accordingly to the greates vixacion and charge of your said Subiecte and diuers of his Frendes. But they the said Robert Langham Iohn Langham Hvmfray Qvick and Richard Hurford not herewith content but seekinge and desiring by any vndewe meanes to mayheme wound or spoile your said Subiecte, did in or about the second day of May last past in vearly lawles and disordred manner assemble themselves together in the strande in the countie of Middlesex nearevnto Temple bar London and procured then and ther vnto themselves diuers riotous persons as namely one (*blank*) Rattenbury, and diuers others to the numbere of eight or nyne persons as yet vnknown vnto your said Subiecte weaponed and prepared, determyning and agreeing to stabb and kill your said Subiect in his owne chambre or whersoever he could be found; and did then & there lye in wayte to have assaulted your said Subiecte as he should come from his business abroad to his Lodging being at an Inn called the sign of the Swan in the Stronde aforesaid, and at laste they vnderstandinge that presand (...) (...)our (...)te was before them (...)uyng past (...) Lodging they by practisse and agremente amonge themselves sent the said (*blank*) Rattenbury to the Chambre and lodging of your Subiecte to thintent he should pike a quarrell to your said Subiect and challenge him to the fiede and appoint a place to fight with him and that when your Subiect should come to the place appointed he shoulde there, by these riotous persons haue ben slayne and killed which Challendge the said (*blank*) Rattenbury came and made vnto your said Subiecte in his owne Chambre about nyne of the clock, in the evening the same second day of May; and for that your said Subiecte althoughe not for his owne person fearing the said Rattenbury alone yet for that he doubted of this practises and for that also he then hadd and yet hath, a wief and diuers children and possesses of some more landes and living then he would so rashely put in adventure; he refused to appoint any place to fight with the said Rattenbury wherevpon the said Rattenbury with many threatening wordes of feight with your said Subiecte whersoever he mett him departed and returning to those his said company and confederates, it was then and there againe fully agreed and concluded among them as before that the said Rattenbury or some other of their said Company should lye in wayte for your said Subiecte in or neare his said lodging in the Strond aforesaid and should stabb and kill him with his dagger or other weapon which they by all meanes they could attempted to haue performed accordingly. And further so it is if it like your Heighnes that the foresaid Edmond Horne being a man of vearly bad vyse or common disturber of your Maiesties peace and quiet gouernemente procuring vnto himself diuers riotous and disordered persons

of like quality and conuersacion to himself, as namely Ierome Horne etc.,  
 Abraham Marty William ffordam *alias* weare Iohn hearne *alias* Reynoldes  
 (*blank*) Goodland and other persons to your subiecte vnknownen to the number  
 of eighte and twenty persons or aboue, All which said <sup>^</sup>riotous persons beinge  
 furnished armed and provided in vnlawfull and warlike manner with holberdes  
 partizans billes swordes and daggers and other suche like weapons without  
 regard of your maiesties Lawes and ordinances provided and vsed against riotous  
 routes and vnlawful assemblies, did in this sorte and manner assemble and  
 geather themselues together at in or neare the towne of Tanton in your highnes  
 foresaid County of Somerset in or vpon or neare aboute the seauententh day  
 of Iune in the one and thirtieth yeare of your maiesties prousperous Raigne,  
 on which day there was a faire then kepte in the said Towne of Tanton and a  
 great assembly of people there; and did then in the said open faire so armed  
 weaponed and prepared as before in vearly riotous routeous and outrageous  
 manner marche vpp and downe in the said faire to the great disturbance  
 terror and <sup>^</sup>admiracion of all suche your maiesties subiectes as weare in the  
 said faire and vnder color of a certenne pretended title which the said Edmond  
 Hornir and Ierome Hornir did then make vnto the Baylywicke of the said  
 liberties of Taunton aforesaid they the said riotous persons did in riotous &  
 forceble manner took from the people in the said faire, diuers parcells of  
 their wares and the same did claime and kepe and did by meane of their  
 outrages and forces compell diuers persons which weare there then to sell  
 wares in the said faire to pay vnto them diuers somes of money or to geve  
 and deliuer vnto them some partes of their wares having no aucthority or  
 cullor of right so to doe./ And whereas also at that tyme, your said Subiecte  
 and others with him weare deputies to Edward Llancaster gentleman then  
 Lawfull bayliief of the said Liberties of Taunton & Taunton deane and having  
 (...) dyuers (...) warrantes and precepts vpon your maiesties proces directed  
 to the Bayliief of the said Liberties and also vnto diuers special bayliefs therein  
 nominated for the arresting and attaching of the said Edmund Horne Ierome  
 Horne and ffrauncis Horne vpon some of which said warrantes the said  
 Edmund Horne was not bayleable. At which tyme your said Subiecte and  
 others the knownen deputies of the said Edward Llancaster and proper especiall  
 Bayliefes named in the said warrantes did make knownen and shewed vnto  
 the said Edmund Horne and Ierome Horne the said warrantes and did  
 (...) presond faire arreste and attache them by vertue of the same  
 requiring and willing them to obey the said warrantes, but they the said  
 Edmund Horne and Ierome Horne with the residue of the foresaid riotous  
 companions and assistantes before named armed weaponed and prepared as  
 before (...) full contempt of your heighnes Lawes and proces did then in or

near vnto the said faire with force and violence and in riotous and r(.)tous  
 sorte and manner resiste the execucion of the foresaid warrantes and refused  
 to obey the same and with theire said weapons did sett vpon and assault your  
 said Subiecte and the Bayliefes *nominated* and appointed in the foresaid  
 warrantes and that so furiously that if they hadd not well defended themselves  
 they hadd ben by the said riotous persons slayne [(.)] murdered or mayhemed  
 and with this force and violence rescussed themselues wherby your maiesties  
*proces* and the said Warrantes remainyed vnexecuted to the dangerous evill  
 example of all the people there *presente* ... And whereas also theis riotous persons  
 neither regarding theire dueties towardes god nor estemyng any breache of  
 your maiesties Lawes but still demeaning themselues in most lawles and  
 outrageous order to the disturbance of the said towne of Taunton and of the  
 inhabitants of the whole Cuntry theraboutes They the said Humfrey Quicke  
 Edmond Horne Iohn Quicke and diuers others to your said subiecte yet  
 unknowen to the nombre of about fourty persons on about the <sup>1</sup>monthe of  
 May Iune or Iuly, in the [(.)]<sup>1</sup> twoe and thirtieth yeare of your Heighnes  
 Raigne <sup>1</sup>& sithence your maiesties late *generall pardon*<sup>1</sup> did assemble and  
 geather themselues together at Tanton aforesaid aboute eleaven of the clocke  
 in the night of the same day all weaponed and prepared with monstrous  
 weapons, And being in this riotous and routous manner assembled they the  
 said Riotors in course of a veary tumulte went from the place of theire first  
 assembly to the house of one George webb in Tanton aforesaid which did  
 then keape a beare or beares, and comyng thither aboute twelve of the clock  
 at night call out with very loude voyce in strong and vnwonted manner and  
 willed the said Beare keeper to bring out to them his beare that they might  
 haue the said beare to the Ring to be beated in the Markett place of the said  
 towne of taunton which the said beare keeper refused to do; and tolde them  
 it was not fitt tyme to beate beares at that season of the night, therupon the  
 said Rioters with theire weapons did then and there fourthwith in riotous and  
 forceble manner break open the dore of the house of the said Bearekeeper  
 and assaulted him in the said house and riotously and forcebly did take from  
 him his beare, and carryed him thoroughe the Streates of the said towne of  
 Taunton, neare haulf a myle in lenghte and also into diuers villages neare  
 about Tanton hooping and holloeing, and making most strang outcryes and  
 vnwonted noyses, beating at the doores of diuers people; and some of the said  
 doores did breake open and suffered the said beare to ronne abroad lose  
 therby disturbing the whole towne and also the inhabitantes of diuers the  
 foresaid villages wherby many of the inhabitantes weare so terrefyed that they  
 weare like to haue ben dryven out of theire wittes and fallen madd; and so

in that sorte carried the said beare into the open *markett* place at Taunton then being neare betweenne the houres of twelue and one of the clock in the night, and then and there did at that season of the night by the space of three howers with dogges and other devises and whippes and whelebarrowes, beate the said beare, but did not tye the said beare, but in this manner bayted 5 him lose, and did then and there fall at varyance with diuers veary honest inhabitantes of good accompt and credit which came out of theire houses to viewe the said outrages, and did hurte veary dangerously sundry of the inhabitantes of the said towne which did in courteous manner indeavor to perswade them to surcease and leave of theire said misdemeanours, and 10 suffered the said beare willingly to ronne into a house neare vnto the foresaid *markett* place in the which house was then a woman great with childe: by reason whereof she was in great danger and like to haue been slayne by the said beare, and the like riotous behaviour bayting of the said beare disturbance of the said towne of Taunton, hurting of your maiesties Subiectes there; and 15 the like misdemeanors as before was by the said Humfrey Quicke Edmond Horner and other of the said Riotors againe comitted and donn in the said towne of Taunton in the night then next following ... yt may therfore please your heighnes the premisses (.....) to graunt vnto your said Subiecte your maiesties most gracious writte of Subpenna to be directed vnto the said 20 Humfry Sydenham Robert Langham Richard Hurford Iohn Langham Humfry Quick Iohn Quick Edmund Horne William Redlan *alias* (.....) Iohn Horne *alias* Reynoldes ffraunces Horne Symon Awten *alias* ffrogwell Thomas Awten *alias* ffrogwell Richard Awten *alias* ffrogwell (*blank*) commanding them and euerye of them by vertue thereof at (...) payne therein to be lymitted 25 personally to appeare before your Highnes and your maiesties honorable Counsell in your maiesties honorable Court of Starre Chambre Then and there to answer to the premisses And to stand to and (...) ther order and (...) as to your heighnes said honorable Counsell shall seeme meete and convenient, And your said Subiect shall dayly pray for your heighnes in all felicity and 30 happynes over vs long to raig

...

## SOMERTON

35

1605-6

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/som 4/1/1  
p 193\* (2 April 1605-22 April 1606) (*Receipts*)

...

Item of the Lord Shandos men the players for vse of the parrishe house xij d. 40

...

## 1607-8

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/som 4/1/1  
p 211 (7 April-29 March) (Receipts)

...

Item of the enterlude playeres for the vse of the parishe house xij d. 5

p 214\* (Expenses)

...

Item for glaseinge the Churchouse windowes [which was done  
by the players] and for mendinge the formes xij d. 10

...

## 1608-9

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/som 4/1/1  
p 217 (29 March 1608-18 April 1609) (Receipts)

...

Item received of the stage players for the vse of the parishe house viij d. 15

...

## 1615-16

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/som 4/1/1  
p 271 (11 April-2 April) (Receipts)

...

Item receaved of Traveler for the Shewing of his Childe in the  
parish house xvijij d. 20

...

## 1621-2

*St Michael's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/som 4/1/1  
p 308 (3 April 1621-23 April 1622) (Receipts)

...

Itm received of players for the vse of the parishe house x d. 30

...

## 1623

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 42, pt 1

f 102 (8 April) (Examination of John Gerrard, late of London, tailor)

*Taken before Sir Edward Hext and John Stawell, esquire, justices of the peace*

...



Beinge examined when he came from London, sayth vpon this day sennight last, and came from London the direct way into the Cuntry to see one Iohn Gerrard his father who lyveth at Ash within the parish of Martocke beinge farther examined what monie he brought with him from London, sayth xxx s. beinge examined where he had the rest of the monie which he had in his pockett, being xvij s., sayth that some gentlemen & others gaue him the monie for shewing them feat<sup>es</sup> of Leigerdemaine & slight<sup>es</sup> of the hand, beinge alsoe examined when he came to Somerton sayth, yesterday about iij of the Clock in the afternoone where he consorted himself with certaine Musitians, and at last hapned into the Companie of a woman whome he knew not, and dranke with her in an Alehowse beinge in her companie some half hower, then he went away from her and in the Eveninge he was apprehended by the watch. The said woman beinge shortly after apprehended vpon suspicion of ffellonie./  
 °Iohn Pedle and Iohn Tyntney (signed) Edward Hext:  
 bound to gyve evidence!°

1627

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 59f 6 (30 May) (*Examination of Dorothy Youe, spinster*)*Taken before Paul Godwyn, DD, justice of the peace*

...

Who saith that on Munday last May: 28<sup>th</sup>. aboute three of the Clocke in the afternoone, one Nicholas Gill beinge in the house of Richarde Cowly of Somerton Tipler, (whose seruauant this examine was) Called her vnto him, and deliuered her one <sup>3</sup>/shillinge<sup>1</sup> tellinge her that she must goe into the backside with him: wherevpon she askinge, what to doe? he vttered lewd and filthy woordes temptinge her to Adultery: wherevpon she perceyvinge him to bee drunke forceably got away from him, and aboute an howre after deliuered him his shillinge againe. After this (as she saith) he Contynued drinkinge in the house the greatest parte of that day and that night, and the next day beinge Tuesday, aboute 7. of the Clocke of that Tuesday night, he beinge in the Company of Three or fower more drinkinge, and beinge farre gone with drinke, he saide vnto this examine, Doll thou hast taken away 20 s. from me, let me haue it againe: which she denyeth that she euer had or tooke: She also saith that diuers saw that he had neere aboute 20 s. when he Came first into the house and not aboute (as they suppose) and that in his drunkenesse he lent to one Mr Smith and others diuers summes of money; and also that he spent liberally on the fidlers, and withall Commers, and that

3/ Ash ... Martocke: 4 miles south of Somerton

10/ hapned: otiose suspension mark over pn

therefore his accusation must needes be false. Also she saith *yat* whereas he affirmeth that she yesterday night deliuered him againe 6 s. 6 d. of the money which she had taken from him; she deliuered him no such money, nether euer had it; and that she deliuered none, she saith it is manifest, because he hauinge spent little since that time, hath onely 6 d. left in his purse (as himselfe Confesseth). She also saith that he was drunke all the time he was in the house, vizt. neere Two dayes, and Two nights././.

(signed) Paul Godwyn

## SPAXTON

1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 7

f 50 (20 July)

*Jury presentment for Cannington hundred*

...

Item we present that Iohn Kidner of Spaxton taillor did on the wensdaie in Whitsond weeke keep bulbetting

...

1605

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 10, pt 1

f 49 (3 July)

*Jury presentment for Cannington hundred*

...

Item we doe present Richard Pearce of Spaxon aforesaide husband doth tipples without licence and did on the xx<sup>th</sup> daie of May laste and kept bullbeatinge the same daie,

...

## STANTON DREW

1638/9

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 320

f 143 (12 March)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral*

18-19/ wensdaie in Whitsond weeke: 15 June

*before William Woodhouse, MA, and Richard Longe, MA, clerics, surrogate judges, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

Officium domini contra Willelmum Lane.

Denunciatur domino Iudicanti quod notatur de incontinentia cum Agnete 5  
Kilbie parochiæ de Chewe Magna: That hee beeinge att Staunton Drewe att  
a bull bayting, and beare bayteinge mett with her, and Carryed her home to  
Chewe behinde him, and weare found in her howse alone togeather about  
midnight verie suspiciouslie of Incontinent lief togeathers: Ac quod desuper  
laborat publica vox & fama./. Testes Elinor Breddie, & Richardus Parsons 10  
de Publowe cum alijs./. Citetur./.

Officium domini contra Agnetem Kilbie.  
Pro eodem delicto./.

## STOGUMBER

1603

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 7  
f 5\*

*Presentment of constables and jury for Williton hundred*

...

They do also present that Iohn Baker of Stogumber within the hundred  
aforesaid <sup>h</sup>husbandman<sup>1</sup> did keepe bulbaytinge & common tipplyng vppon 25  
the feast day of St Iames thapostle laste at Stogumber aforesaide Contra  
statutum etc.

## STOGURSEY

1549

*Will of John Verney* PRO: PROB 11/34  
f 270 (made 11 July 1549; proved 30 November 1551)

...

...Item I will that my Heire shall haue all myne Apparell and my Signet of 35  
golde/ And that the Implementes of houshold hereafter mencioned shall  
remayne in my house of ffayrfyld aforesaide to thuse of myne heire. That ys  
to saye two payre of the gretyst Rackys of Iron two barrys of Iron foure of the

5/ Agnete: final e altered from æ

best Crockys. and two of the best pannys and two of ye warst pannys. and my furnays. half my pewter vessell. two fetherbeddes with their apparell/ my virgynalles and my Clocke standing in the Oryall and all my harneys...

1603

**Quarter Sessions Indictments** SRO: Q/SI 7

f 5 (20 September)

*Presentment of constables and jury for Cannington hundred at Bridgwater sessions* 10

The Constables and Iurye sworne for the hundred aforesaide do present for our soueraigne Lorde the Kynge that Roberte Smythe of Stogursey in the hundred aforesaide Smythe did keepe bulbaytinge & Comon tipplinge of ale and beere at Stogursey aforesaide within the hundred aforesaide vpon the xijth daye of September in the yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne Lorde Kynge Iames that nowe is of England ffraunce & Ireland kinge defendor of the faith &c the first & of Scotland the xxxvijth Contrary to the forme of the Statute etc

...

20

## STOKE ST GREGORY

1602

**Quarter Sessions Indictments** SRO: Q/SI 6, pt 1

f 41 (30 June)

25

*Jury presentment for North Curry hundred at Taunton sessions*

...

In primis Wee presente that one Iohn Bickham of Gregoriestooke did tipple & sell drinke the xxvjth daye of maye last past and sithence and that there was Bulbaytinge the same daye

...

1603

**Quarter Sessions Indictments** SRO: Q/SI 7

f 59 (20 July)

35

*Jury presentment for North Curry hundred at Taunton sessions*

...

ffarther we present that Iohn Bickham of Currie Lode in the parishe of

40

41/ Currie Lode: about 1 mile northwest of Stoke St Gregory

Gregoriestooke <sup>Λ</sup>husbandman<sup>1</sup> the xxvij<sup>th</sup> daie of Iune in the first yeare of the Raigne of our Soueraigne lorde kinge Iames [the ffirst the] did sell drinke & kepe Bulbaytinge <sup>Λ</sup>at stocke aforesaid<sup>1</sup> the daie and yeare aforesaid °contrarie to the forme of the Statute in that case maid°

...

5

1607/8

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: QSR 37, pt 2*See Ilton 1607/8*

10

## STOKE ST MICHAEL

1609

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 7

15

f 35\* (21 July) (*Examination of William Pickering of Green Ore, miner*)*Taken before John Stocker, esquire, justice of the peace*

...

Who sayeth that one frydaye being the vij<sup>th</sup> of this Iuly, this *examine* and one Iames Wyborne mett at Greene oare aforesaid, and there did agree to goe to Bruton to borrowe a hey of one Robert Oates a shoe maker there, *which* accordingly they did, and from thence [towards] <sup>Λ</sup>in<sup>1</sup> the Evenynge of the same daye came towards Leighe Downe ... And that the sondaye followeing, he went to Stokelane to one Claves, where hee founde a vyolyn and played vppon the same, where there was daunceinge & Typpling in the said Claves howsse.

20

25

...

## STOKE SUB HAMDON

30

1612

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 174

f 122\* (30 November)

*Proceedings of the court held in the registry before Thomas Dugdale, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

35

[*Contra* Robertum [Bart] Bartlett.

nsule Mar:] ffor attempting the chastitye of the wief of henry Hoyte of Odcombe. And

40

24/ the sondaye followeing: 9 July

[dimissus gratis]  
[15 Decembris]  
[388]

for procuring of bull bayting on the sabboth day tempore divinorum  
Iuratus negavit &c/ [sed fassus est that] et [habet] est cum monicione etc  
dimissus gratis./ sed citetur mulier ad iustificandum etc. dixit in presentia Hill,  
I will make the Iudge of the coort to [st] bee wheare he shall stand with his  
hatt in his hand as well as I./]

...

## STREET

1621

**Compert Book for Peculiars** SRO: D/D/Ca 200  
f [135v] (27 September)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells  
Cathedral before Arthur Duck, 1LD, vicar general, in the presence of Edward  
Huishe, notary public and registrar*

...

Officium domini contra Willelmum Lide

Presentatur &c for ridinge for musitians vpon the sabboath daie in tyme of  
eueninge prayer to playe att an ale./ Similiter quoad certorium &c Quo die  
comparuit et obiecto presentamento etc responder et credit quod presentatur  
negocium &c et aliter negavit &c/ et habet ad purgandum se 3. manu vicinorum  
suorum fidedignorum in proximo habita proclamacione etc.

25<sup>o</sup> die octobris predicti coram eodem surrogato &c comparuit et ex eo quod  
nullam extraxit proclamacionem etc neque vllos produxit compurgatores etc,  
habet ad agnoscendum eius delictum in cancello

...

## SUTTON MALLETT

1624

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 232  
f 221 (7 June)

*Proceedings of the court held in the registry before Mr Withers, cleric, surrogate  
judge, in the presence of James Huishe, notary public*

...

contra Willelmum Cox.

Pro suspicione incontinentie cum Christiana Palmer de Venis Sutton. Ac est  
fama etc.

38ml Otherie: 3 miles south of Sutton Mallet

22 Iunij

Quo die *comparuit* Cox & sese submitit &c, & *iuratus* &c *responder* that  
 vpon the tuesdaie in the Whitsonweeke nowe last past before this his  
 examinacion this *respondent* & the said Palmer, with others haueing byn  
 daunceing in Sutton aforesaid, & haueing ended theire daunce, this *respondent*,  
 & the said Palmer, & the rest went vnto the howse of [Danston] <sup>1</sup> Vincent<sup>1</sup> 5  
 fflinger [w] of Sutton aforesaid, who then sold ale, and theare dranck togethers,  
 & after awhile, the said companie departed, & left this *respondent*, & the  
 said Palmer alone, wheare they two staid for the space of a quarter of an [howe]  
 hower <sup>1</sup> after<sup>1</sup> they being all this while in an vpper chamber of the said howse,  
 itt beeing about 3: or 4: of the clock in the afternoone & after prayers, the 10  
 said fflinger nowe, & then comming in, & out to the said chamber. And  
 answereth that theare vpon some enimies of theires reported heerof, & that  
 thearevpon some of the said *parishe* of Sutton aforesaid, who wished them  
 not well reported that they weare theare suspitiouslie of incontinent lief  
 togethers, soe that nowe manie of the said *parishe* doe (though wrongfullie) 15  
 reporte of the same: [Vnde *dominus* ad *peticcionem* & *allegavit*] & *aliter*  
*negavit* &c, & *magnopere protestatus est de innocentia sua* &c *dominus* se  
*iuramento suo proprio purgavit* &c .l.

Sutton Mall (...)

*contra* Christianam Palmer

20

On 6/

Pro eodem delicto Quo die *comparuit* dicta Palmer, & *similiter* altum fuit in  
*huiusmodi* negocio prout in actu proximo &c .l.

## TAUNTON

25

1503/4

*Will of Agnes Burton* PRO: PROB 11/14

f 49\* (24 January; proved 26 April)

...Item I bequeth to the church of seynt Mary Magdaleyn in Taunton my sute 30  
 of blacke vestimentes with cope and corporas to the honor of almighty gode  
 Item I geve vnto the said Sepulcre service there my rede damaske mantell & my  
 mantell lyned with silke that I was *professid* yn to thentent of Mary Magdalen  
 play and a Rochet & a box of siluer & gilt....

35

1592

*Bill of Complaint in Sydenham v. Sydenham* PRO: STAC 5/S61/12

See Skilgate 1592

2-3/ tuesdaie ... examinacion: 18 May  
 15/ doc: d *written over another letter*

21/ altum: *for actum*

## 1609-10

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 8ff 2-2v\* (3 October-9 January) (*Constable's information*)

The seconde of october 1609/ betwixt nyne and ten of the clocke of night, in  
 Iohn Helliers house in Taunton, and he havinge their then manye disordred  
 people, and some of that companie beinge over gonne with drinke, came into  
 the Streate and fought, and an outcrye was, that murther was licke to be  
 comitted, whervppon I came, and aprehended those which did fight This  
 beinge done, their were with me mr Pope mr Hendlye and mr Edneye  
 went into the house of the sayd Iohn hellier in whose chambers their then  
 found verye disordred and suspitious persons...

This whyles examyninge those in the sayde chambers and fyndinge some of  
 them to be suspected persons wold have had them from thence some [Ells]  
 other wher to have kept them saffe till the next morninge, to have sent them  
 to some one Iustice of the peace to be farther examyned by him, Iohn Hellyer  
 seinge this, came to me and Swore, I shold have none of them out of his house,  
 and with manye rude and vncivell termes resisted, and by force wold keepe  
 them, whervppon for avoydinge farther danger or hurt might growe therbye  
 lefte them their, and had watche about that dore that night, at which tyme  
 this Iohn Hellier verye vncivellye raylinge, and at laste againe to mr Hendleye  
 his face in vehement rude and vncivell sort threateninge him

The next morninge mr Pyne of Currymallet was in the Towne, before whom,  
 I had those suspected fellowes for horse stealinge, and by him then were  
 comitted to the Gayle And their then also withe witnes proved that gret  
 disorder of Iohn Hellyer aforesayde, and how he resisted in moste vehement  
 sorte, And suche, if we had not for that present foreborne, and taken that  
 course I did, it was verye licke that Murther wold their then benn comitted,  
 for which, and manye other suche licke./ proffes of gret disorder, and vnlawfull  
 Rule manye and often tymes before, that this Iohn hellyer kept in his house,  
 And resortinge to his house I Lewde companies both of younge men, and  
 weomen, their manye tymes moste part of the night or all the night to gether  
 withe minstrells, dancinge and drinkinge verye vncivell to be harde or senne,  
 And as this same night <sup>1</sup>also that theis suspected persons were their as  
 afforesayde, this Iohn hellier, his wyffe or some of his servantes sent then for  
 minstrells, and sent for, and had then to his house, younge weomen and mens  
 servauntes of the Towne vnkowne to their masters or parentes, their to keepe  
 with that companie lewde and disordred rule, which minstrels and the rest,

11/ their: *for* their were(?)

23/ Currymallet: 4.5 miles southeast of Taunton

28/ benn: *for* have benn



were sent for by Iohn Hellier or his people vnknown, to the companie that were on his house then, as those tow suspected persons before mencioned now in the Gayle did then aver and testefie, And beinge told of theis, and manye suche licke, this sayd Iohn Hellier answered, that he wold keepe suche rule in his house who soever sayd naye for saythe he I paye a gret rent for my house, 5 and I muste have some meanes to get it againe...

## 1609/10

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 8

f 80 (9 January)

10

*Articles and informations exhibited at Wells sessions against Roger Symons of Taunton, butcher*

...

- 4 Item about Alhalloutyde last past he tooke his wiefe by force, threatened to tye her to the Bullring on the Cornhill at Taunton and there woulde beat her with dogges. 15

...

## THORN COFFIN

20

## 1623

*Compert Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 236

ff [137–7v]\* (Early October)

...

*Officium domini contra Robertum Roberts*

25

Presentatur per gardianos et inquisitores *ibidem* that aboute Michaelmas last vizt since the last Visitacion Robert Roberts kepte companie in his howse dauncinge, and typlinge duringe the tyme of eueninge prayer vppon a sabboath daie haueing byn shortelie before presented to the Archdeacons Coorte for the like offence. 30

*Quesitus fuit per Iohannem Martin mandatarium &c x<sup>o</sup> die mensis Septembris vltimi super quo fidem fecit &c. Quo die dominus decrevit Citatus fuit personaliter apprehensus infra parochiam ibidem per Iohannem Martin mandatarium &c 5 die instantis Octobris &c.* 35

17 Octobris 1623. loco consistoriali predicto coram eodem surrogato etc *similiter actum fuit etc*

*Officium domini contra Willelmum Searle*

*Similiter presentatur that William Searle and William Mabbott weare att the* 40

17. octobris  
excommunicatio  
emanavit 26:  
maij

said Roberts his howse att the same tyme and absent from prayers. [Citatus fuit personaliter apprehensus infra parochiam ibidem per eundem mandatarium eodem die. Quo die] Similiter quoad certorium &c./ Quo die similiter decretum fuit &c Executum fuit decretum vijs et modis per eundem mandatarium eodem die.]

17 Octobris 1623 loco consistoriali predicto coram magistro Roberto Withers clerico etc surrogato etc facta. preconizazione etc

Officium domini contra Willelmum Mabbott

Presentatur vt supra [Quesitus fuit per eundem mandatarium eodem die Quo die] Citatus fuit personaliter apprehensus infra parochiam ibidem per eundem mandatarium eodem die. Quo die (blank)

excommunicatio  
emanavit  
eodem

...

## THORNFALCON

1613

*Compert Book for Archbishop's Visitation* SRO: D/D/Ca 180  
f [151v]\* (21 October)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in St Mary Magdalene's Church, Taunton, before Anthony Methwyn, surrogate judge, at the time of the metropolitan visitation of the diocese of Bath and Wells and in the presence of Thomas Heath, notary public*

contra willelmum Belringer

for dancing in the house of Iohn Allyn at tyme of divine seruice.

18 d.  
emanavit  
25 Novembris  
[dimissio]

Quesitus fuit xj<sup>o</sup> die instantis octobris per Robertum Harries mandatarium

&c./ Quo die comparuit et obiecto presentamento &c fassus est &c submittendo se &c, et habet ad agnoscendum eius culpam coram ministro, gardianis et 10 alijs parochianis ibidem

[...]  
excommunicatio/

25 Novembris 1613. coram magistro Anthonio Methwin sacre theologie baccalaureo commissario [introducto certificario in scriptis] excommunicatus fuit in non certificando etc./

contra Robertum Burges

pro simili./ Quesitus eodem per eundem. Quo die comparuit et fassus est &c, et similiter

18 d.  
emanavit  
25 Novembris  
dimissio

25 Novembris 1613. coram dicto magistro Anthonio Methwin etc [similiter] introducto certificario etc in scriptis sub nominibus ministri, et gardianorum ibidem &c. significando dictum Burges peregissee penitentiam alias ei iniunctam &c, dominus approbavit &c/ et eundem ab officio dimisit/

d. *contra* Thomasinam Sullye  
 Novembris pro simili./ Quesita eodem per eundem./ Quo die comparuit et obiecto  
 presentamento &c fassus est &c/  
 missio 25 Novembris predicti coram dicto magistro Methwin similiter &c./

5

d. *contra* Iohannem Allin.  
 ff for suffering the said persons to daunce in his howse vt supra./ Citatus 16.  
 instantis octobris &c./ Quo die comparuit, et obiecto presentamento &c  
 Novembris fassus est &c/ et habet ad similiter confitendum  
 missio./ 25 Novembris predicto coram dicto magistro Methwin &c similiter &c.

10

## TINTINHULL

1447-8

*St Margaret's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/tin 4/1/1

15

p 16\* (20 July-19 July) (Church costs)

...

...Et in expensis [villa(.)] Regis. de mountagu apud tyntenhil(.) existentis  
 tempore estuali iij d....

...

20

1451-2

*St Margaret's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/tin 4/1/1

p 21\* (20 July-19 July) (Receipts)

...

25

...Et de vj s. viij d. receptis de Waltero Gille, Iohanne Gille Thoma Baurying  
 Iohanne Cribbe & Iohanne Exale prouentibus de incremento I. ludi vocati  
 Cristmasse pley...

...

30

1512-13

*St Margaret's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/tin 4/1/1

p 96\* (28 March-13 March) (Receipts)

...

...Item off robyne hoodes All xj s....

...

35

1515-16

*St Margaret's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/tin 4/1/1

p 99 (25 March-17 March) (Costs)

...

40

...(. . .) for paynting off þe kyngges crowne ij d....

## TRENT

1622

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 41, pt 1f 48\* (30 September) (*Petition of parson, officers, and villagers*)

To the right *Worshipfull* the  
Iustices of ye Peace now sitting  
in Sessions at Bridgwater:

May it please this *worshipfull* bench to be informed, that wheras Abraham Brokes alias Thorne <sup>^</sup>[of Trent] standeth bounden by recognisance vnto the good behaviour as allsoe not to keepe tipling in his house/. Never the lesse contrary to those recognizances, and much to the trouble and molestation of vs his neighbors the inhabitants of Trent aforesaid hath brewed and sold ale in great abundance, and by reason of his bull- and beare-baytings hath lately drawne much disordred company thither./ Neither is he like to desist from theis courses vnles *youre* good *Worshipps* wilbe pleased to vse some good and speedy meanes for his reformation, and *our* releife: Thus hoping you will favorably entertayne our petition, we rest

Trent.30.September  
1622.

At *youre* worshipps  
service

(*signed*) Thomas Gerard  
John Seward Pastor.  
Thomas Adams Constable  
Thomas Loscomb.  
John Loscomb.  
Richard Bisshope

## WALTON

1581/2

*Visitation Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 65

f [111]\* (26 January)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Isaac Upton,*

*MA, LLB, and Samson Newton, cleric and canon residentiary, surrogate judges, in the presence of John Bishop, Jr, notary public*

Officium domini contra willelmum Lyde de Walton for kepinge ale on the saboth daie and bulbaytinge

Ad certificandum de confessione culpe sue dictus Lide habet °continuatur in proximum°

Officium domini contra willelmum Wilkins de eadem

Similiter

°Similiter Similiter°

...

## WEDMORE

1582

*Dean's Consistory Court Book* WCL

f [7v] (29 October)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory near the font in Wells Cathedral before Isaac Upton, MA, LLB, official of Valentine Dale, LLB, dean of Wells, in the presence of John Smith, notary public*

officium domini contra Richardum Mayne et Robertum moris de eadem presentatur that they do kepe bearbayting on the sabothe dayes

Citati per martin [ad] xxv<sup>to</sup> octobris ad Comparendum istis die et loco quo die Comparuerunt dicti mayne et moris [et] Cui dominus iniunxit [vi] penitenciam viz that thay [should] shall in the parishe church Confesse there faulte and aske [f] forgewenes if they haue offended ...

...

1605

*Deposition Book for Dean's Peculiar* SRO: D/D/Cd 28

nf\* (3 April) (Deposition of William Sartin of Westbury, blacksmith, aged 40, on behalf of William Boulting against John Hardweeche)

*Taken before Anthony Methuyn, MA, surrogate judge, in the house of Paul Methuyn, cleric, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...

4/ Officium: 5 minims in MS

9/ Officium: 5 minims in MS

27/ Cui: for Quibus

...Et vlt<sup>r</sup>ius deponit et dicit yat hee hath heard say and reported by the parishners and inhabitauntes of westburie aforesaid that the articulate Thomas Houlder and the said Katherine Bendle about witsontide or Trinity tyde nowe last past before this his examinacion <sup>^</sup>was xij monethes<sup>1</sup> went to wedmore togethers to make mearie and yat they continewed theare all or the most part of that night <sup>^</sup>att dauncing<sup>1</sup> and then came home [either that night or] the next day togethers; And that the said Thomas Houlder & katherine Bendle haue att diuers other tymes gon abroade to revells, and other places of mearimentes, and that theare they haue keppe companie at dauncing, & drinking togethers....

nf (4 April) (*Deposition of Richard Wilcox of Westbury, carpenter, aged 40, on the same behalf*)

...  
Ad 39 articulum nescit deponere, saving that [about a yeere when] this iurate keeping an alehowse twoe yeeres togethers or theare aboutes endid about a yeere & half agon in that space the [said] articulate katherine Bendle with other companie did many times [t] resort to this deponentes howse, & theare did daunce, and spent the tyme in mearyment, as other companies did. [Et.] Et aliter nescit deponere./]

nf (22 April) (*Examination of John Arnye of Westbury, husbandman, aged 21, on the same behalf*)

...  
Ad 38. articulum deponit et dicit that the articulate Thomas Houlder and Katherine Bendle haue of <sup>^</sup>a<sup>1</sup> long tyme haunted eache to thothers companie early and late, abroade at dauncing, and at home at her fathers howse in westburie aforesaid offensively to their neighbors, by reason yat hee is a married man, and shee a single woman. The whiche their company keeping this examine hath oftentimes seene and noted, hee dwelling in suche sort that in his howse hee may <sup>^</sup>and hath<sup>1</sup> perceaued his going towardes her fathers howse <sup>^</sup>and from thence againe<sup>1</sup> And hee sayth further that by the common fame and report of the parishners and inhabitantes of westburie aforesaid they the said Thomas and Katherine haue vsed to travell abroade in companie togethers to revells, and markettes to the dislike, and offence of their neighbors....

nf

...

Ad .39. *articulum* deponit et dicit that the said Katherine Bendle hath bin of a long tyme and is a lewde idle huswief, a common resorter to alehowses & [ot] other places wheare dauncing is <sup>a</sup> both by day and by night, and a greate company keeper with the persons named in this article; ffor this examine hath bin, and is a neere neighbor vnto her, and hath seene & noted her manner & coorse of lief. And sayth that among her neighbors shee hath bin, and is commonly and generally taken & accompted to bee suche a woman as this iurate hath before deposed her to bee: [whoes] whose concent and accompte of her in that respecte this iurate is well acquainted with. Et aliter nescit deponere./ saving yat hee hath heard folkes to talke & reporte, yat ye articulate Iohn Browning hath confessed & boasted in suche manner and forme as in this article is deduced./ ./ ./

...

## WELLINGTON

1586/7

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 73

f [101v]\* (13 January)

*Proceedings held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before John Daye, LL.D**Officium domini contra Thomam Seyle de wellington*

Quo die comparuit personaliter alias citatus Cui dominus obiecit That he vpon the Sabboth daie viz the xv<sup>j</sup><sup>th</sup> of october last past in the tyme of devine service to the prophanation of the same daie was at a plaie or enterlud in the parishe there omitting devyne service to the evill example of others. Qui respondendo dicit That he being Constable ther and hearing of an enterlude to be playd did send [...] to haue them staie vntil evening praier was ended, whervpon for that they not withstanding proceeded to their pley he this [dep] respondent went vnto them wher by reason of the presse that he could not come at them he lost the hearing of evening praier vt dicit Tunc decretum est quod agnoscat culpam private coram ministro et gardianis die dominico proximo. et ad certificandum isto die ad quindenam

...

12-14/ hee hath heard ... deduced./././: written in left margin and marked for insertion here

## WELLS

1327-8

*Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls* WCLmb 1 (*Expenses*)

...

In communa Episcopi Innocencium &amp; canonicorum suorum ij.s. ix.d....

...

1330-1

*Statutes of Dean John de Godeley*

(8 February) (Chapter 4)\*

...

Ordinatio quod non sint ludi contra honestatem ecclesie Wellensis  
 Item a festo Natiuitatis Christi vsque ad octabas Innocencium quidam clerici  
 subdiaconi diaconi presbiteri eciam huius ecclesie vicarij ludos faciunt  
 theatrales in ecclesia Wellensis & monstra laruarum introducentes in ea insanie  
 sue ludibria exercere presumunt contra honestatem clericalem & sacrorum  
 prohibicionem canonum diuinum officium multipliciter impediendo, quod  
 de cetero in ecclesia Wellensis sub pena canonica fieri prohibentes, volumus  
 quod diuinum officium in festo sanctorum Innocencium sicuti in festis  
 sanctorum consimilibus quiete ac pacifice absque quocunque tumultu &  
 ludibrio cum deuocione debita celebretur.

...

1337-8

*Statutes of Dean Walter de London*

(14 July) (Chapter 3)\*

...Item cum olim dominus Iohannes Godele decanus & capitulum dicte  
 ecclesie Wellensis vicarios eiusdem ecclesie sub pena canonica prohibuissent  
 & proinde statuissent ne in festiuitatibus sanctorum Innocencium & aliorum  
 sanctorum que Natalem christi secuntur ludos theatrales facerent in ecclesia

Collation: 14 Ordinatio] BCLS omit 14 ecclesie Wellensis] R omits 15 Christi]  
 domini BCLS 15 vsque ad] vsque B 15 Innocencium] Innocenti[e] cum<sup>1</sup> L 15 quidam]  
 quid B, quod CL, quod cum<sup>1</sup> S 16 faciunt] faciat L, faciant S 17 monstra] mostra C  
 17 introducentes] introducciones C 17 insanie] infame B, infamie C 18 ludibria]  
 ludubria BR 18 exercere] exercere BCR 19 prohibicionem] prohibucionem B 20 sub]  
 et sub LS 21 sanctorum] dictorum sanctorum CLS 21 sicuti] sicut B 22 ac] & B,  
 et L 23 ludibrio] ludubrio B, laudibrio S 23 cum] cum<sup>1</sup> R 30 Godele] de goddelee  
 C, de Goddelee L 31 ecclesie Wellensis] Wellensis ecclesie CL 31 vicarios] vicarij L  
 33 Natalem] in Natalem B 33 secuntur] sequuntur B



predicta seu ad ludibriorum spectacula monstra laruarum introducerent in eadem aut per gesticulacionem suarum debacaciones obscenas diuinum officium impedirent quouismodo, nos Walterus de London & capitulum ecclesie predictae, contra hoc agencium maliciam opportuna districcione compescere volentes adiciendo, statuimus & ordinamus vt, si quis vicarius contra hoc statutum huiusmodi gesticulaciones de cetero exercere presumat in ecclesia supradicta, suspensus ipso facto a dilacione habitus & a percepcione commune maneat, quousque decanus & capitulum eum duxerint reconsiliandum.

...

(*Chapters 18-19*)

De vicarijs Wellensis ecclesie horas canonicas per transcursum uel sincopam dicentibus et venacionibus seu aucupacionibus vagantibus ac per vicos & plateas incedentibus  
Item graui nimirum turbacione monemur quod plerique vicarij dicte Wellensis ecclesie modestia ordinis clericalis abiecta, dum Deo offerre sacrificium laudis in puritate consciencie et animi deuocione deberent, horas canonicas dicere seu psallere transcurrento, sincopando, extranea quedam et plerumque varia & inhonesta intermiscendo colloquia, ac venacionibus aucupacionibus & piscacionibus presenciam personalem exhibendo ac quasi nichil curantes de clericali milicia, choreas & spectacula prosecuntur ac die noctuque per vicos & plateas ciuitatis incedunt et vitam ducunt voluptuosam cum cantu & tumultu magno, ex quibus varia inhonesta secuntur & ecclesiasticum plerumque perturbatur officium in diuine maiestatis offensam & astancium scandalum populorum, nos ergo decanus & capitulum supradicti, huiusmodi temerarijs ausibus obuiare volentes, inhibemus eisdem ne decetero talia committere presumant. Et si quis in premissis uel aliquo premissorum deliquerit, suspensionem a delacione habitus per duos menses se nouerit incursum, nichil prorsus ab ecclesia interim recepturus.

Collation continued: 2 aut] ut B 2 gesticulacionem] gesticulacio[r]em B 4 districcione] distructione B, distructione L 6 huiusmodi] huius C 7 suspensus] sit suspensus CL 7 commune] 9 *minims in B* 7 maneat] incurat CL 8 duxerint] duxerit BC 8 reconsiliandum] reconciliandum L 13 transcursum] transcu<sup>u</sup>rsu<sup>m</sup> L 13 sincopam] syncopani S 14 aucupacionibus] accupacionibus C 14 vagantibus] vacantibus CLS 16 Item] CLS *omit* 17 Deo offerre] offerre deo CLS 18 animi] 5 *minims in B* 19 plerumque] polorumque L 20 intermiscendo] intermissendo CL 21 curantes] currentes C 22 milicia] m[a]i<sup>l</sup>itia L 22 prosecuntur] prosequuntur S 23 ducunt] ducunt alias CLS 24 varia] va[ca]ria B 26 huiusmodi] huius BC 27 committere] 8 *minims in S* 28-9 presumant ... suspensionem] C *omits* 29 incursum] permansurum B

2/ gesticulacionem: for gesticulacionum

De vicarijs ecclesie Wellensis secularibus negocijs se immiscentibus & tabernas exercentibus et ad aleas seu taxillas publice ludentibus

Item cum plures vicarij dicte ecclesie Wellensis officijs ac commercijs secularibus se immisceant ac etiam ad aleas seu taxillas ludant & tabernas exercent in obprobrium ordinis clericalis & scandalum ecclesie manifestum, nos igitur decanus & capitulum supradicti, huiusmodi temerarijs ausibus obuiare volentes, statuimus & ordinamus vt huiusmodi delinquentes suspensionem a delacione habitus per duos menses, nichil ab ecclesia interim recepturi, incurrant ipso facto. ...

(Chapter 21)

Ne coree ludi vel spectacula vel lapidum proiecciones fiant in cimiterio uel claustro ecclesie

Item cum ex coreis ludis & spectaculis & lapidum proieccionibus in prefata ecclesia & eius cimiterio ac claustro dissenciones sanguinis effusiones & violencie sepius oriantur & ex his dicta Wellensis ecclesia multa dispendia paciatur, nos decanus et capitulum supradicti, huiusmodi insolencias solitudinis cura submouere volentes, statuimus & ordinamus quod, si quis premissa seu aliquid premissorum facere presumpserit in futurum vel huiusmodi temerarijs actibus scienter interfuerit, maioris excommunicationis sententiam incurrat ipso facto. ...

(Chapter 26)

Prohibicio ludorum theatralium & spectaculorum & ostentacionem laruarum in ecclesia Wellensis

Collation continued: 1 immiscentibus] miscentibus B 2 exercentibus] exerceantibus BCS 2 ludentibus] lude ludentibus B 3 plures] pleres B 3 ecclesie Wellensis] Wellensis ecclesie C 3, 4 ac] et L 4 immisceant] 7 *minims for immi in B*, immisceant<sup>1</sup> L 4 ad] ad ad B 4 seu] & C, et LS 4 taxillas] taxillos CLS 4 ludant] ludunt B 4 exerceant] exerceant B, exerceant CS 5 manifestum] magnifestum C, manifestum S 6 supradicti] supradictum B 6 huiusmodi] huius B 7 huiusmodi] huius BC 8 recepturi] suscepturi B 13 Ne] *corrected from De in C* 13 cimiterio] Cemiterio L 15 coreis] choreis CLS 15 ludis] ludi B 15 &<sup>2</sup>] B omits 16 cimiterio] cemiterio L, Cemiterio S 16 dissenciones] discenciones B, dissensiones S 18, 20 huiusmodi] huius C 22 incurrat] intercurrat B 27 Prohibicio] B *corrects hu to hi by cancelling a minim* 27 theatralium] teatralium C 27 ostentacionem] ostentionem L 27 laruarum] leruarum C

27/ ostentacionem: for ostentionem(?)

Item cum infra septimanam Pentecostes & etiam in alijs festiuitatibus fiant  
 a laicis ludi theatrales in ecclesia predicta & non solum ad ludibriorum  
 spectacula introducantur in ea monstram laruarum verumptamen in sanctorum  
 Innocencium & aliorum sanctorum festiuitatibus que Natalem christi secuntur  
 presbiteri diaconi & subdiaconi dicte Wellensis ecclesie vicissim insanie sue  
 ludibria exercentes per gesticulationem debaccaciones obscenas diuinum  
 officium impediunt in conspectu populi decus faciant clericale vilescere quem  
 potius illo tempore deberent predicatione mulcere, nos decanus et capitulum  
 supradicti (ne vbi peccatorum est venia postulanda, ibi peccandi detur occasio  
 aut deprehendantur peccata committi) prelibatam ludibriorum consuetudinem  
 seu potius corruptelam ab ecclesia predicta fore decernimus penitus extirpandam,  
 proinde statuentes si quis huiusmodi gesticulationes de cetero exercere presumat  
 in ecclesia predicta sit ipso facto excommunicationis vinculo innodatus a  
 quo nullatenus absoluator, nisi prius eidem ecclesie cui tantam contumeliam  
 intulit iudicio decani & capituli satisfaciatur competenter. Et ne hoc salubre  
 statutum pretextu ignorancie negligatur ipsum per annum proximum  
 secuturum singulis diebus dominicis & sollempnitatibus instante multitudine  
 fidelium precipimus solempniter publicari.

...

20

## 1343-4

*Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls* WCLmb 1 (*Common expenses*)

...

...In Communia parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum die sanctorum  
 Innocencium ij s. ix. d....

...

Collation continued: 1 septimanam] septimam B 1 Pentecostes] Penthecostes  
 C 1 & etiam] [& etiam] & etiam B 2 ludi] [d] ludi C 2 theatrales] teatrales C  
 2 ludibriorum] ludubriorum C 3 monstram] monstrum CLS 3 verumptamen]  
 verum etiam LS 4 secuntur] sequuntur BS 6 exercentes] exercentes B, excercentes C  
 6 debaccaciones] debaciones B 6 obscenas] obscuras B, obstinas C, obsenas L  
 7 conspectu] conspectum L 7 faciant] faciunt S 8 predicatione] predict' C  
 9 peccatorum] petratorum B 9 detur] datur L 9 occasio] occasi B 10 prelibatam]  
 prelibata B 11 extirpandam] exturpandam C, extirpandam LS 12 huiusmodi]  
 huius C 12 gesticulationes] testiculaciones C 12 exercere] exercere C 13 predicta]  
 supradicta CLS 14 nullatenus] nullate B 16 negligatur] negligetur BL, negligenter  
 C 17 secuturum] sequuturum S 17 sollempnitatibus] solempnibus CL, solemnibus  
 S 17 instante] instantibus CLS

3/ monstram: for monstra(?)

6/ gesticulationem: for gesticulationum

## 1346-7

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Common expenses*)

...

...In communia parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix. d....

...

## 1392-3

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Expenses*)

...

...In communia parui Episcopi & canonicorum suorum die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij. s. ix d....

## 1394-5

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In communia parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix d....

...

## 1397-8

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2\* (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Item in .j. processione facta in vigilia Conceptionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury Ad processionem inter lxij personas v s. iij d. cuilibet  
I d. Episcopo I d. Altarist' I d. Chorist' I d....

## 1399-1400

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in j processione facta in vigilia Conceptionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury inter .lvij. personas .iiij. s. .x. d. cuilibet .j. d. altarist'  
.j. d. chorist' .j. d. & Episcopo .j. d.

...

## 1400–1

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In communia parui Episcopi & canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix d.... 5

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Item in I processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury inter lvij personas iiij s. ix d. Cuilibet I d. altaris' I d.  
Chorist' I d. Episcopo I d. 10

...

15

## 1402–3

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Item in .I. processione facta in vigilia concepcionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury inter lv personas iiij s. vij d. Cuilibet I d. Altaris' I d.  
Chorist' I d. Episcopo I d. 20

...

## 1407–8

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Item in communia parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix d.... 25

30

mb 1d\* (*Biddisham manor account*) (*Expenses*)

...

...Item solutum Edwardo Glouer pro factura vnius tunice sancti Saluatoris  
pro ludo in ebdomada Paschatis & pro tinccione xx d.... 35

...

12/ Cuilibet I d.: *underlined in MS*21/ Cuilibet I d.: *underlined in MS*

35/ ebdomada Paschatis: 15–21 April

## 1408-9

*Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls* WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In communia parui Episcopi & canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix d....

...

mb 1d (*Biddisham manor account*) (*Expenses*)

...

...Item solutum Edwardo Glouer pro emendacione vnus Toge sancti saluatoris  
pro ludo in Ebdomada Paschatis vij d....

...

*Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Item in I processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury ad hostium Chori inter liiij personas iij s. vj d. Cuilibet  
I d. altarist' I d. Chorist' I d. Episcopo I d.

...

## 1409-10

*Corporation Act Book 1* WTHp 180 (*7 November*)

...

Eodem die Philippus Pyper & Willelmus Godzer <sup>^</sup>ministrali<sup>^</sup> admissi &  
electi communiter Burgenses ville & iurati

...

## 1414-15

*Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls* WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In communia parui Episcopi & canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix d....

## 1416–17

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In Communia parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum In die Sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix d.... 5

...

## 1417–18

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In Communia parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum In die Sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix. d.... 10

mb 1d (*Biddisham manor account*) 15

...

...Item Solutum pro tinctione I toge Sancti Saluatoris pro ludo in Ebdomada  
Paschatis & pro ij barbis pro ij palmerijs xvj d....

...

20

## 1418–19

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In Communia parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum in die Sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix d.... 25

...

mb 1d (*Biddisham manor account*) (*Expenses*) 30

...

Item in I magna pecia de Bokeram blodio pro iij Mantellis pro iij Marijs ad  
pascha ad Matutinās viij s. vj d. ...

...

35

**Cathedral Vicars' Choral Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in Mynsterell' .iij. d....

...

40

## 1421-2

*Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In Communia parui Episcopi & canonicorum suorum In die Sanctorum Innocencium ij s. ix d....

...

## 1424-5

*Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2\* (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Item in vna processione facta in vigilia Conceptionis beate Marie pro anima Nicholai Pontesbury ad hostium Chori inter lij personas iiij .s. iiij .d. Cuilibet j .d. altaris' j .d. Choris' j .d. Paruo Episcopo puerorum j .d.

...

## 1428-9

*Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In Communia parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum in die Sanctorum Innocencium ij. s. ix. d....

...

## 1430-1

*Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In Communia parui Episcopi et Canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum Innocencium ij s. ix d....

...

## 1433-4

*Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Item in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro Anima Nicholai Pontesbury ad hostium Chori inter xlix personas iiij .s. j .d. Cuilibet I .d. Altaris' I .d. Choris' I .d. paruo Episcopo puerorum I .d....

...



## 1437-8

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...In Communa parui Episcopi & Canonicorum Suorum in die sanctorum 5  
innocencium ij. s. ix. d....

...

## 1438-9

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCL

10

mb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...*(Et in vna processione facta in vigilia)* Concepcionis beate Marie pro Anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury ad hostium Chori inter .liij. personas iiij .s. iiij .d.  
Cuilibet I .d. Altarist' I .d. Chorist' I .d. paruo Episcopo puerorum .I. d.... 15

...

## 1439-40

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCL

20

mb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in j. processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro Anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury ad hostium Chori inter l. personas iiij .s. ij .d. Cuilibet  
j .d. Altarist' j .d. Chorist' j .d. paruo episcopo puerorum j .d....

...

25

## 1440-1

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

30

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury ad hostium chori inter xlix personas iiij .s. j .d. Cuilibet  
j .d. Altarist' j .d. Chorist' j .d. paruo Episcopo puerorum j .d....

...

13/ *(Et in vna processione facta in vigilia): partially obscured by fold in parchment*

15/ I .d.<sup>1</sup>: underlined in MS

24/ j .d.<sup>1</sup>: underlined in MS

33/ j .d.<sup>1</sup>: underlined in MS

## 1445-6

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2\* (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in Communa Parui Episcopi & canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij s. ix d.... 5

...

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in .j. processione facta in vigilia conceptionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesbury ad ostium chori inter xlviii personas iiij s. Cuilibet j d.  
Episcopo puerorum j d. Altarist' j d. Choris' j d.... 10

...

## 1446-7

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in Communa parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij .s. ix. d.... 20

...

## 1448-9

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in Communa parui Episcopi & Canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum  
Innocencium ij .s. ix .d.... 25

...

## 1449-50

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in Communa parui Episcopi & [al] Canonicorum suorum in die  
sanctorum Innocencium ij s. ix. d.... 30

...

## 1454–5

*Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...Et in I. processione facta in vigilia conceptionis (...) Nicholai Pontesbury 5  
ad ostium chori inter lij personas iij s. iijj d. Cuilibet I d. Altarist' I d. Chorist'  
I d. Episcopo puerorum I d.

...

## 1455–6

*Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2\* (*Necessary expenses*)

10

...  
...Et in Communa parui Episcopi puerorum & canonicorum suorum in die  
sanctorum Innocenciu ij. s. ix. d. <sup>λ</sup>vnde Episcopo viij d. et Cuilibet Coriste 15  
[ij d.] et alteriste. ij d. Et Communiario j. d.<sup>1</sup>...

...

*Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

20

...

...Et in j processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pountesbury ad hostium chori inter xlvj personas iij. s. x. d. Cuilibet  
j. d. Altarist' j. d. Chorist' j. d. Episcopo puerorum j. d.

...

25

## 1458–9

*Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls* WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

30

...  
...Et in I. processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro Anima  
Nicholai Pontysbury ad hostium chori inter xlvj personas iij. s. x. d. Cuilibet  
j d. Altarist' I. d. Chorist' I. d. Episcopo puerorum I d.

...

51 (...): *membrane worn*61 Cuilibet I d.: *underlined in MS*15/ Innocenciu: *for Innocencium; abbreviation mark missing*15–16/ viij d., [ij d.], ij d., j. d.: *sums underlined in MS*24/ j. d.: *underlined in MS*

## 1461-2

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in Communa parui Episcopi puerorum & Canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum Innocencium vid(...) Cuilibet alio Canonico suo de Choris et Tabellar' ij d. ac communiario j. d. ij. s. ix d....

...

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro anima Nicholai Pontysbury ad hostium Chori inter xlvij personas iij s. xj d. Cuilibet j d. Altarist' j d. Chorist' j d. Episcopo puerorum j d.

...

## 1469-70

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2d (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro anima Nicholai Pontysburye inter xliij personas iij s. vj d. cuilibet j d. Altarist' j d. Chorist' j d. Episcopo puerorum j d.

...

## 1470-1

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in communa parui Episcopi ac Canonicorum suorum in die sanctorum Innocencium viz. Episcopo viij d. cuilibet alio Canonico suo ij d. ac communiario j d. ij s. ix d....

...

mb 1d (*Biddisham manor account*) (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et solutum pro ij libris de canabo pro crinalibus fiendis ad iij maras ludentes

6/ vid(...): 20mm damaged text, probably videlicet

7/ ij d., j. d.: sums underlined in MS

14-15/ Cuilibet j d.: underlined in MS

23/ j d.<sup>1</sup>: underlined in MS

32-3/ viij d., ij d., j d.: sums underlined in MS

nocte pasche vj d. Et solutum pro iij quoyfes emptis ad dictas iij maras. iij. d.  
Et solutum pro iij quarterijs de ffustike ad tincturam dicti crinalium vj d. Et  
solutum Christine Handon pro tinctura & factura dictorum Indumentorum  
xij d....

...

5

## 1472-3

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

10

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro Anima  
Nicholai Pontesburye inter xlij personas iij s. vj d. Cuilibet I d. Episcopo  
puerorum j d. Altarist' j d. Chorist' I d.

...

15

## 1473-4

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 1 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et communa parui Episcopi puerorum ac canonicorum suorum in die  
sanctorum Innocentium viz. Episcopo viij d. cuilibet alio canonico suo ij d.  
ac Communiario j d. ij s. ix d....

...

25

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesburye inter xliij personas iij s. viij d. Cuilibet I d. Episcopo  
puerorum I d. Altarist' I d. Chorist' I d.

...

30

## 1478-9

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

35

...Et in communa parui Episcopi puerorum ac Canonicorum suorum in die

1/ nocte pasche: 14 April

2/ dñr: for dictorum

2/ crinalium: apparently written over erasure

12/ I d.: underlined in MS

21-2/ viij d., ij d., j d.: sums underlined in MS

29/ I d.: underlined in MS

*sanctorum* Innocentium viz. Episcopo viij d. cuilibet alio Canonico suo ij d.  
ac Communiario I d. ij s. ix d....

...

(*External expenses*)

...Et in regardo facto mimis domini Regis ad manus senescalli vj s. viij d....

...

#### 1480-1

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesburye inter xlv personas iij s. ix d. Cuilibet I d. Episcopo  
puerorum j d. Altarist' I d. Chorist' I d.

...

#### 1490-1

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in Communa parui Episcopi puerorum ac Canonicorum suorum In  
die Sanctorum Innocencium viz. Episcopo viij d. Cuilibet Canonico ij d.  
Communiatio I d. ij s. ix d....

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 4 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia concepcionis beate Marie pro anima  
Nicholai Pontesbery inter xlv personas .iij s. ix d. cuilibet I d. Episcopo  
puerorum I d. Altarist' I d. Chorist' I d.

...

1-2/ viij d., ij d., I d.: sums underlined in MS

15/ I d.: underlined in MS

24-5/ viij d., ij d., I d.: sums underlined in MS

31/ I d.: underlined in MS

1491

**General Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 1

p 190\*

*Proceedings of the court held in Wells Cathedral in the Mary Chapel next to the cloister before Thomas Harrys, vicar general* 5

...  
super crimine heresis diffamatus. et super eodem crimine coram Iusticiarijs domini nostri Regis apud ylchestre indictatus prout patet in quadam Billa. prefato domino vicario generali transmissa & [& porrecta] et exhibita. in qua Billa. continentur Articuli huius heresis quos omnes & singulos idem (blank) 10  
expresse negauit fatebatur tamen quod sciret legere anglicum. & numquam scolatizauit. et quod nullos libros anglicanos habuit nec aliquibus huius libris  
^ anglicanis vnquam<sup>1</sup> vsus est nisi tantum libris anglicanis de interludijs. Anglice Ordinals for pleyes. 15

...

1492-3

**Cathedral Fabric Account Rolls** WCLmb 3 (*Necessary expenses*) 20

...

...Et datum Mimis domine Regine pro regardo vj s. viij d....

...

1494-5

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 5 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*) 25

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate Marie pro Anima Nicholai [pontessyde] pontesbury. inter xl. personas iij s. iiij d. cuilibet I d. 30  
Episcopo puerorum. j d. Chorist' I d. Altarist' I d.

...

1497-8

**Corporation Act Book 2** WTHp 203\* (*30 September-19 March*) 35

Et insuper in eadem Conuocatione omnes & singuli Burgense vnanimi assensu ad tunc & ibidem dederunt Magistro Nicholao Trappe potestatem

13/ huius: for huiusmodi  
30/ I d.: underlined in MS

39-40m/ potestas data magistro: underlined in MS  
38/ Burgense: for Burgenses

generalem Ad inquirendum in quorum manibus peccunie & bona ecclesie ac Communitatis Wellie sunt & iniuste detente viz. prouenientes ante hoc tempus de Robynhode puellis trepudiantibus. Communi seruicia ecclesie & huiusmodi. Atque de bonis & peccunijs dicto Communitati qualitercunque detentis et in quorumcunque manibus existentibus. Et desuper eorum nomina scribere qui habent huiusmodi Bona cum Summis &c

...

### **Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in communa parui Episcopi puerorum in die Sanctorum Innosencium videlicet Episcopo viij d. quilibet Canonico ij d. Communiario j d. ij. s. ix d....

...

mb 1d\* (*Biddisham manor account*) (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et solutum pro factura liij de lyberdheddes precij capitis xij d. liij. s....

...

### **1500-1**

#### **Cathedral Fabric Account Rolls** WCL

mb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et solutum Mimis Domini Regis pro Regardo vj s. viij d. Et solutum Mimis Domine Regine pro Regardo vj s. viij d. Et solutum Mimis Domini Principis pro Regardo vj s. viij d....

### **1502-3**

#### **Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia conceptionis beate Marie virginis pro anima Nicholai Pountesbury inter xliiij personas iij. s. viij d. Cuilibet I d. Episcopo puerorum I d. altarist' I d. Chorist' I d.

...

2-3/ tempus de Robynhode: *underlined in MS*

13/ viij d., ij d., j d.: *sums underlined in MS*

13/ quilibet: *for cuilibet*

18/ xij d.: *underlined in MS*

34/ I d.: *underlined in MS*



## 1504-5

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCLmb 4 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et in *Communa parua* Episcopi Puerorum in die *Sanctorum Innocentium* 5  
viz. viij d. Cuilibet Canonico ij d. *Communiario* I d. ij. s. ix d....

...

## 1505-6

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

10

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia *Concepcionis beate Marie virginis pro*  
*anima Nicholai Pontesburye* inter xlj *personas* iij s. v d. Cuilibet I d. Episcopo  
puerorum. j d. Alterist' I d. Chorist' I d. 15

...

**Cathedral Fabric Account Rolls** WCLmb 3 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

...Et solutum mimis domini Regis pro Regardo vj s. viij. d. Et solutum Mimis  
Domini Principis vj s. viij d.... 20

...

## 1508-9

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

25

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia *Concepcionis beate marie virginis*  
*pro anima Nicholai Pontesbur(.)* inter xlj *personas* iij s. v d. cuilibet j .d. 30  
Episcopo puerorum j d. Altarist' j d. Chorist' j d. in toto iij s. viij. d.

...

## 1509-10

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

35

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia *concepcionis beate marie virginis pro*

5/ *parua*: for *parui*(?)5/ *Innocentium*: 2 *minims* for *iu* in MS

6/ viij d., ij d., I d.: sums underlined in MS

14/ I d.: underlined in MS

30-1/ iij s. v d., j d., j d., j d.: sums underlined in MS

anima Nicholai Pontesbury inter xli personas iij s. v d. cuilibet j d. Episcopo  
puerorum j. d. Altarist' j d. Chorist' j d. in toto iij s. viij d.

...

### 1511-12

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate marie virginis pro  
anima Nicholai Pontesbury inter xl personas iij s. iij d. cuilibet j. d. Episcopo  
puerorum j. d. Altarist' j d. Chorist' j d.

...

### 1513-14

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

...

Et in communa Episcopi puerorum in die sanctorum Innocencium videlicet  
Episcopo viij d. cuilibet canonico ij d. Communiario j d. in toto ij s. ix d....

...

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in vna processione fa(...) in Vigilia concepcionis beate marie Virginis  
pro Anima Nicholai Pontesbury inter xxxvj personas iij s. cuilibet j d. Episcopo  
puerorum j d. Altarist' j d. Chorist' j d.

...

### 1515-16

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 3 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Concepcionis beate marie virginis pro  
Anima Nicholai pontesbury inter xxxviij personas iij s. ij d. cuilibet j d. Episcopo  
puerorum I d. Altarist' I d. Chorist' I d.

...

1/ xli: corrected from xj

1-2/ iij s. v d., j d., j d., j d.: sums underlined in MS

10/ j. d.: underlined in MS

19/ viij d., ij d., j d.: sums underlined in MS

25/ fa(...): edge of membrane lost

26/ j d.: underlined in MS

35/ xxxviij: corrected from xxxvj

35/ j d.: underlined in MS

## 1518–19

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 4\* (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia conceptionis beate marie virginis pro  
 anima Nicholai Pontesbury inter xxxviij personas iij s. ij d. cuilibet I d. Episcopo 5  
 puerorum I d. Chorist' I d. Altarist' I d.

...

## 1520–1

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

10

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia Conceptionis beate marie virginis pro  
 Anima Nicholai Pontesbury inter xxxviij personas iij s. ij d. cuilibet I d. Episcopo 15  
 puerorum I d. Altarist' I d. Chorist' I d.

...

## 1524–5

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

20

...

...Et in vna processione facta In vigilia Conceptionis beate marie virginis pro  
 Anima Nicholai Pontesbury Inter xxxix personas iij s. iij d. cuilibet j d. Altarist'  
 I d. Chorist' I d. Episcopo puerorum I d. 25

...

## 1528–9

**Cathedral Vicars' Choral Account Rolls** WCLmb 2 (*Necessary expenses*)

30

...

...Et in regardo lusoribus in communi aula xxij d....

...

## 1529–30

**Cathedral Escheators' Account Rolls** WCLmb 2\* (*Michaelmas term*) (*Distribution of obits*)

35

...

...Et in vna processione facta in vigilia conceptionis beate marie virginis pro

anima Nicholai Pontesbury inter xxxv personas ij s. xj d. cuilibet j d. altaris'  
j d. Chorist' j d. Episcopo puerorum j d.

...

(Christmas term) (Distribution of obits)

...

Et in vna processione facta in vigilia anunciacionis beate marie virginis pro  
anima Willelmi Bath' inter xxxvj personas iij s. cuilibet j d. altaris' j d. Chorist'  
j d. Episcopuo puerorum j d.

...

### 1534-5

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 3 (Necessary expenses)

...

...Et in Communa episcopi puerorum in die sanctorum Innocencium viz.  
Episcopo viij d. Cuilibet Canonico ij d. Communiario j d. in toto ij s. ix d....

### 1537-8

**Cathedral Communars' Account Rolls** WCL

mb 2 (Necessary expenses)

...

...Et in Communa Episcopi puerorum in die Sanctorum Innocencium  
[videlicet] Episcopo viij d. Cuilibet Canonico ij d. Communiario I d. in toto  
ij s. ix d....

### 1554-5

**Commissary General's Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 21

f [183]\* (27 October)

*Proceedings of the court held in Wells Cathedral before Bartholomew Haggatt*

Itm presentith that Iohn burgys clothy(....) in the dying howse of william  
Jones toke a shete abowte hym & in mockyng and dispysyng the blessed  
masse and also take a pete [to] & lyfte hyt ouer hys hed and said vnto his  
companye of his sorte come & here the popishe masse ther beyng with hym  
Iohn hars and hugh manerlyng <sup>o</sup>xxij<sup>do</sup> die Augusti comparuit supradictus  
Iohannes hars quem dominus oneravit iuramento de fideliter dicendo et

8/ j d.<sup>1</sup>: underlined in MS

9/ Episcopuo: for Episcopo

17/ viij d., ij d., j d.: sums underlined in MS

24/ viij d., ij d., I d.: sums underlined in MS

33/ Itm: for Item; abbreviation mark missing

36/ masse: corrected from masce; possibly by second hand

deponendo super premissis Qui iuratus deponit that in the Eve of thassumpcion  
 of our lady last was xij monithes in the [b] dyhowse of william Iones of welles  
 this deponent was presente accompanied with Iohn burges hugh manerynge  
 Iohn hinkes one pennfildre where and when the saide hugh manerynge toke  
 A shete and cast it abowte hym/ and then the saide Iohn burges saide vnto 5  
 the saide manerynge now thou art like A pryst <sup>Λ</sup>[goinge] [t] to masse. Syr[ffe]  
<sup>Λ</sup>[saide this deponent] the world ys now chaungeable and therefore youe may  
 speake a folyshe word And hereafter <sup>Λ</sup>[youe may it] repented et aliter nescit  
 deponere<sup>o</sup>

10

## 1565-6

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTHf 64v\* (*Payments*)

...

Item payde to my lorde moun Ioyes players

v s. 15

...

## 1566-7

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTHf 65\* (*Payments*)

20

...

payde to my Lord Mount Ioyes players

v s. iiij d.

...

## 1567-9

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTHf 73v\* (*Michaelmas 1567-Michaelmas 1569*) (*Payments*)

25

...

Item payde to syr henry ffoskewes players

ij s.

...

30

## 1595-6

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTHf 225 (*11 December*)

...

hit is agreed by all those persons aboue namede that the Waightes & levell  
 Shall haue xx fryse allowed to make theym Cotes or lyuerys/

35

...

1/ super: abbreviation mark corrected from pre

8/ repented: for repent(?)

## 1600-1

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTH

f 250v (4 December)

...

hit is Agreed that the musysyans & leuell shall haue fryse allowed to make  
them lyuerye Coates. 5

...

## 1602-3

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTH

f 261 (16 December)

...

hit is agreed by all those persons whose names are aboue wrytten that the  
waightes leuell & hughe Conylie the Constabell shall haue black fryse to make  
them lyuerye Cotes. 10 15

...

## 1605-6

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 36

pp 382-3\* (1 November) (Examination of William Stott, miller, aged 44, upon  
articles exhibited by Eleanor Cox against Miles Brokenburrough) 20

*Taken before Thomas Merest, surrogate judge*

...

Ad secundum articulum in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit et 25  
dicit thar [in the] vppon a certaine daye hapninge about Midsomer daye nowe  
last past before this his examination or thearaboutes about ten or aleven of  
the Clock in the forenoone of the same daie, (vt modo recolit, diem et tempus  
aliter perfecte non recordatur, this Irat being in his house [a] in Southover  
within the towne of welles and [looking on] leaning & looking out at a wyndowe 30  
into the Streate, sawe the articulated Ellinor Cox and Myles Brokenburrough  
passinge by l and meetting togeathers she gowinge downe towardses to her  
[own] house, and he cominge vpp streate dreaving a horse of his which had  
byn impounded in the pound, by the saide Ellinor Cox her house. Att which  
tyme and place there passed these angrie and vncharitable speeches followinge 35  
a [between them] vz. The saide Ellinor askinge him where he [would] [had]  
payed for the impounding of his horse, he answered her sayinge, thowe shalt  
haue a turd, doest thowe answeare me soe (quod she) thowe filthie pigge, I  
haue paide iij d. alreddie to my lords man, and therfore thowe shalt paye it;

28-9/ (vt modo ... recordatur,; comma used as closing parenthesis  
29/ Irat: for Iurat

32/ towardses to: to redundant

Then the saide Brokenburrowgh replyeing sayed doest thoue call me filthie pigge, thoue art a dronken sowe <sup>4/</sup>& a dronken iade<sup>1</sup> then she <sup>13/</sup>saide he was a<sup>1</sup> [called hym] knaue to call her in that manner <sup>15/</sup>& demanded him where he ever knew or sawe her dronk<sup>1</sup>, whervvpon he againe called her dronkard, and dronken sowe <sup>17/</sup>& saide to her heyte dronkard goe drunkard goe along<sup>1</sup> 5 and sayed to her <sup>19/</sup>alsoe/ wilt thoue fayne knowe the tyme, whye<sup>1</sup> Thowe weare dronk at Bristow, when thoue wentes after the Berrards which had byn at thye house, for thye monye, and there thoue weare soe dronk, that thoue weare carried out of the streate to thee bedd like a <sup>21/</sup>dronken<sup>1</sup> sowe, and manye other spe<sup>1</sup>(...)es he vsed of and to her at that tyme & place in verie 10 angrie and vncharitable manner; Et hæc dicit de suis proprijs visu auditu er intellectu present standing in or neere this Iurates streate doore this examinantes wiffe, and Raffe Harvye his contest, and others which passed bye whome this deponent cannott nowe perfectlye remember whooe did hearken vnto and vnderstand the premisses aswell this deponent. Et aliter nescit deponere. 15

...

p 385\* (*Examination of Ralph Harvie, miller, aged 32, upon the same articles*)

...

Ad ij articulum in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit et dicit that 20 in the Sommer season nowe last past, about the beginning of harvest tyme, (tempus aliter non recolit) as this deponent was standinge [abou] at the dore of william Stott his contestes house in Sovthover in welles, about noonetyde of a certaine daye hapning about the saide tyme, there mett togethers the articulated Ellinor Cox and Myles Brokenburrowgh, [he the saide 25 Brokenburrowgh dreauing] between whome there passing angrie speeches this Iurat and the saide Stott and his wiffe gaue eare to them And then and theare this Iurat hard the said Ellinor and Myles Brokenbrowe<sup>1</sup> to vse<sup>1</sup> these angrie & vnseemlye speeches followinge vz <sup>27/</sup>she speakinge to him sayed<sup>1</sup> Howe nowe haue you paide for the pownding your horse, noe quod he, I 30 haue not, nor will nott, thoue shalt haue a Tourd, [g<sup>1</sup>(...) to] whye replied she I haue paide my lordes man iij d. for pownage, and thoue shalt paye me, thervvpon [(...) he sayed to her Goe dronkard, goe; Then she demaunded him where he ever knew her dronk, whye quod he art thoue soe desirous to knowe/ I will tell thee by tale & by token, twas when the Beares were heere 35 dost thoue remember when thoue wentes to Bristoll after thye monye, and there thoue were soe dronk yat thoue weare carried to thye bedd. Heervvpon

4/ sawe: w corrected from y

13/ Raffe: name added in blank space left by clerk; rest filled with 3 line fillers

15/ aswell: for aswell as

23/ Sovthover: th written over something else

she called him scurvye lyeing boye and then he againe/ bad her, goe awaye  
dronkard awaye, goe, hayte, & othe<sup>r</sup> verie angrie & vnseemlye wordes to this  
effect he then and there vsed in the sighte and heering of thes Iurat, & othe<sup>r</sup>s,  
especiallye of the saide William Stott & his wiffe whooe weare then & theare  
harkining to this brawlinge Et aliter nescit deponere.

...

p 476\* (4 February) (*Examination of William Taverner, tanner, aged 50, upon  
articles of exception exhibited by Miles Brokenburrough against Eleanor Cox*)

...

Ad primum articulum exceptionum predictarum in vim iuramenti sui prestiti  
examinatus deponit et dicit that vppon a certaine daie hapning about a quarter  
of a yeere agon or theareabouts, the tyme otherwise this deponent doth not  
now remember Myles Browkenburrowe articulated came to this examinant  
and requested him yat he would be one of his pledges to haue his horse [which]  
out of a pounce <sup>^</sup> [being in southover in welles<sup>1</sup>] (of which pound the saide  
Elinor Cox at yat tyme kept the keye).... and desiring her to deliuer him  
his horse, she refused soe<sup>1</sup> to<sup>1</sup> doe: whervppon there passed to & froe chollerick  
& angrie speeches one against thother, At which tyme this examinant did not  
heere the saide myles to vse any other wordes which maye be thought to be  
any wayes to be disliked then these, vz/ I will not saye that thowe weare dronk  
at Bristoll when thowe weare theare & diddest goe after the Berrardes, and I  
will not saye thowe weare ledd to bedd dronk....

...

pp 477-8\* (*Examination of Richard Atwell, yeoman, aged 40, upon the same  
articles of exception*)

Ad primum articulum exceptionum predictarum in vim iuramenti sui prestiti  
examinatus deponit et dicit That [about h] within this yeare nowe last past,  
the daye [or] moneth or week this examinant saieth he cannott preciselye  
call to minde nor sett downe, the articulate Myles Brokenburrowe having  
had a horse in the pound in Southover in Welles, he came to this examinant  
and prayed him to be one of his pledges, which he yeelded vnto, his contest  
william Taverner being thother: whooe mett at the [saide Co] articulate Ellinor  
Cox her house (whooe kept the same pound) all three together to thend to  
be pledges and to haue out the saide horse ... the saide Myles Brokenbrowe  
went to the saide pound & [t(...)] open<sup>1</sup> [strooke of<sup>1</sup>] the lock of the pound,  
(but without [<sup>^</sup>][any]<sup>1</sup>] hurt doing therto) and tooke out his saide horse, and

15/ his<sup>2</sup>: written over a

16/ which: w written over another letter



passing vpp the streate <sup>^</sup>[they] w<sup>th</sup> him<sup>1</sup>, about the house of Thomas Batt  
and neere to William Stotes house, he togeather with this examinant and  
william Taverner his *contest*, mett with the saide Elinor Coxe, whooe  
vnderstanding <sup>^</sup>[by them<sup>1</sup>] in what sorte the saide myles had gott out his horsse  
out of the saide pounce, she being verie angrie therwith and vsing to the  
saide Brokenbrowgh *somm* termes which he did not well like, [and] He  
amongest other his replyinge speeches sayed to her as followethe vz/. I will  
not saye that [thowe] <sup>^</sup>[you<sup>1</sup>] weare dronk when [thowe] <sup>^</sup>[you<sup>1</sup>] went[es] to  
Bristoll after the Beares...

...

## 1606–7

*Sessions Book 1* WTH  
f [41v]\* (12 January)

Vagraunte & idle persons

...

Robert Mayne & Iohn Mayne of Southwaye are lodged at Iohane Hawkins  
in Southouer Wanderinge Minstrells without licence.

...

## 1607–8

*Bill of Complaint in Hole v. White et al* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 219\* (19 April)

To the kinges most excellent *Maiestie*

(In all humblenes com)playninge sheweth & informeth your most excellent  
*Maiestie* your highnes dutifull & loyall subiect Iohn Hole of the Citty of  
Welles in your highnes County of Somerset Clothier Tha(.) wheras for the  
religious celebracion of the Saboth & other holydayes it hath beene duely  
provided by your *Maiesties* lawes & statutes of this your highnes Realme (That  
noe person aboue) the age of sixteene yeres without lawfull excuse shall on  
any saboth day or other holyday absent himself from his accustomed parish  
Church or Chappell in time of divyne service nor doe any acte or thinge in  
abuse of the sabothe or other holyday. And wheras by your highnes late  
proclamacion given at your highnes (Courte) at Theobaldes the s(.)uenth  
day of Maye (in the first yere) of your highnes raigne & openly published  
throughout this kingdome your *Maiestie* hathe comaunded that no impious  
prophanacion common playes or other like disorderly pastimes be frequented  
or vsed vppon any saboth day: yett so it is may it please your *Maiestie* that  
one Edmond White Thomasin his wyfe Stephen M(.)lerd Henry ffooster  
[William Atwill] (Robert Lane) [(...) (.)ha(.) Esquire] Thomas Haggett

Vertue Hunt Thomas Peters Iohn Guilbert George Greenstreat William Pope  
 Olyuer Martin Phillip Trickett [...] William Peters Edward Cary Mathewe  
 Lancaster, William Gamage, Robert Atwill, William Stott, Walter Smith, Iohn  
 Rodway Thomas Bison William Williams *alias* Morgan the (younger Iohn  
 Hodges *alias*)<sup>1</sup> Hiscockes<sup>1</sup> (and Thomas hiberd) with diuers others vnknowne  
 to your subiect who when they shalbe knowne your subiect prayeth maye be  
 inserted into this bill of Complaint<sup>1</sup> by the abetment and countenance of  
 Willyam Watkins Leonard Crosse Iames Godwyn gentleman Robert Creese  
 Thomas Halle Willyam Bull Willyam Evans Robart Lane Edward wadham  
 esquier and willyam Atwyll<sup>1</sup> did in the Moneths of Maye & Iune last in the  
 fifte yere of your Maiesties raigne at such time as there were great insurrections  
 & vnlawfull assemblyes of diuers rebellious persons in the Count(ie of  
 Northam)pton & elsewhere within this Realme (riotouselie & vnlawfully)  
 assemble themselues together in the City of Welles then armed with vnlawfull  
 weapons<sup>1</sup> and drummes<sup>1</sup> & then & there acted not only many disordered  
 Maygames Morice daunces<sup>1</sup> longe Daunces men in weamens apparall new  
 deuised lordes and ladyes and<sup>1</sup> Churchales, but further acted very prophane &  
 vnseemely shoues & pastimes whereby many vnruely & dangerous assemblyes  
 were then & there gathered together so that outrageous insolencies were then  
 & (there dailie comytted tendinge) to faction & great disturbaunce of your  
 highnes subiectes which said riotous assemblies disorders & shewes were vsed  
 & putt in execucion on the<sup>1</sup> Third Seauententh and one and Thirtieth dayes  
 of Maye laste in the yere aforesaid beinge Sabothe dayes and on other<sup>1</sup> saboth  
 dayes & other holy dayes in the said Monethes of May & Iune in the tyme  
 of diuine seruice & of sermons there preached to the disturbaunce therof and  
 by that meanes drewe many people then from the church & (diuine service)  
 & sermon there & also (then & there continued) the same in the night (tyme)  
 at vnseasonable howers in disturbance of the people then in their houses &  
 specially of the watch there vsed & kept for the safety of the same City In  
 which regard your subiect beinge then Constable of the said City of Welles  
 did come to the said riotous persons & in their presence viewe & hearinge  
 openly read vnto them your highnes said (proclamacion and When) fayre  
 perswacions (wold not preuaille with) them (did by the auctoritie & duty  
 of) his place reprove them for their said abuses misgouernment & causinge  
 of tumultes & vprores within the same towne Wherat the said malefactors  
 conceiuinge causeles mallice towardes your said subiect then & there vsed  
 your subiect beinge Constable with many reprochfull speeches & contemptuous  
 & vyolent behaiour<sup>1</sup> And the said Thomasyn with other of the confederates  
 then and there iustled your said Subiectt & compassed your Subiect (with)  
 drummes (beaten in disgrace) of your Subiect<sup>1</sup> & then & there (with) strong  
 hand (riotouselie rescued) vagrant persons then (assembled that your subiect  
 had apprehended) for there (then misbehaiour)<sup>1</sup> and then and there beate

suche persons as then assisted your Subiect<sup>1</sup> (And) not so contented the said  
 malefactors <sup>1</sup>by the abettment and countenance aforesaid<sup>1</sup> then sought by  
 combynacion amongst themselues to abuse & disgrace your said subiect &  
 all others whome they conceiued did fauor or respect your subiect. And the  
 said riotors and confederators <sup>1</sup>by the incoragement and countenance of  
 the abettors aforesaid<sup>1</sup> proceeding on with their shewes and disorders (did  
 then) & there in their said shewes disgracefully make representacions & vse  
 (reprochfull speeches of) your Subiect and others, as namely on the Eighteenth  
 day of Iune last in the said ffifte yere of your Maiesties raigne the said Edward  
 Wadham, Henry ffoster & the said confederators <sup>1</sup>by the Incoragment and  
 countenance of the abettors aforesaid<sup>1</sup> then makinge publike shewes in the  
 Towne of Welles in the sight of many hundred people did therin then & there  
 cause the said Thomas Bison of Welles aforesaid Grover in base manner to  
 ride disguised on horsebacke about the streetes in Welles aforesaid with a  
 Brush in the one hand & a hatt in the other & with other ould hattes hanginge  
 att his girdle cryinge as he so rode, that he had as good hattes to sell as Mr yard  
 had in his shoppe therby vnlawfully representinge Iohn yard of the Towne of  
 Welles haberdasher who by his trade then was & yett is an haberdasher & hath  
 been three times Constable of the said Cit(.) of Welles beinge knowne to be  
 a speciall frind of your said subiect/ And did likewise cause the said Mathewe  
 Lancaster then & there in like vnseemely manner to ride a stride on horsebacke  
 through the streates of your said Towne disguised in womans apparell like a  
 spinster holdinge a Torne or spinninge wheele vpon the horse before him &  
 worsted wooll vpon a distaff tourninge the said wheele as he was soe ryding who  
 beinge then & there asked by some of the said Confederators then standing  
 by & prepared for that purpose, whose woll it was; he then spynded, answered  
 it was Holes & therwithall did singe aloud Hole, Hole, as he then so rode  
 therby endeavouringe to abuse & disgrace your said subiect Iohn Hole who  
 then was & yett is a clothier & a maker of worsted hose & seteth on worke by  
 spyninge knittinge & making of Cloth & worsted hose foure or five hundred  
 people at the least weekly & so hath done for many yeres past/ And likewise  
 the said confederators <sup>1</sup>by the abetment aforesaid<sup>1</sup> caused one Iohn Smyth to  
 ride disguised havinge before him athwart his horse a plancke with a hammer  
 in one hand & in the other a sawcer lyinge vpon the same planke which sawcer  
 he did then & there bea(.) with his said hammer havinge also a pewter pott &  
 a skymmer at his girdle & beinge then & there asked by some other of the  
 said Confederators what ware he had to sell he answerred aloud That he had  
 Pewter as good as anie was in Meades shoppe therby derydinge Hughe Mead  
 who then was & yett is a Pewterer & hath been three times also Constable  
 in the said City of welles & a fri(.)d of your said subiectes At what time  
 also the said Confederators (caused) two other persons (videlicet) one Iames  
 Lideard & an other vnknowne person to ryde disguised through the said

streates vpon one horse with a payre of scales & an ould frayle with graines  
 & other trashe in it *which* they flunge about in mens neckes & faces sayinge  
 aloud that Humfrey Palmer had noe such reysons in his shoppe as they had  
 therby scoffinge the said Humfrey P(.)mer who then was & yett is a Grocer  
 & hath beene also thrice Constable in the said City of Welles And the said 5  
 confederates <sup>^</sup>by the abettment aforesaid<sup>1</sup> likewise caused one (*blank*) Torre  
 then & there to ryde disguised on horsebacke with two bagges filled with  
 Counters or some such matters the one in his hand thother at his girdle  
 representinge an vserer with whome vpon the same horse face to face (the said)  
 Robart Atwill did ride disguised with a deske and a standish before him 10  
 representinge a scrivener wherby they then & there signified that they were  
 to lend money to the Hatter to the Pewterer to the Clothier & to the Grocer  
 the said representinge vserer then sayinge That because the said Pewterer Hatter  
 Clothier & Grocer were not sufficient they (shold) haue noe money of him to  
 be letten to vse without good suerties whereby they scornefully insynuated 15  
 the whole multitude as it was indeed then signified by the said representacions  
 That *your* subiect Iohn Hole & likewise the said Iohn yard beinge a  
 haberdasher the said Hughe Mead beinge a Pewterer & the said Humfrey  
 Palmer beinge a grocer were poore men & stood in need of money or that  
 they would be glad to take vp money at vsery *which* said leud representacions 20  
 were then & there so acted in the viewe of 2 thousand persons <sup>^</sup>which the  
 then Mayor Alexander Towse perceyvinge then said there was knaverye in yt  
 & did not reforme the said abuses albeyt *your* subiect often complained [of]  
 to him of yt<sup>1</sup> & the said Edward wadham affirmed that he did sett them on  
 worke meaninge the said persons that rode soe disguised as aforesaid & that 25  
 he would b(.)are them out whatsoever it should coste him. [And *your*] <sup>^</sup>And  
 so farr the said confederators by the abetment of the said Evans & others  
 proceeded in their abuses that in the said Monethe of Iune an Oracion was  
 penned [there] then & there to be publicklye vttered by some *personne* in  
 disguised apparrell tendinge to some representacion of the then Bishoppe of 30  
 Bathe and wells And *your*<sup>1</sup> subiect dothe farther shewe & informe vnto *your*  
 highnes that the said George Greenstreat, Edmond White Thomasyn his wyfe  
 Vertue Hunt & all the rest of the said Confederates & disordered persons  
 not satisfied with their former doinges & disgraces offred to *your* subiect &  
 other his fr(.)ndes aforesaid but bearing still an extreame grudge & mallice 35  
 aswell against *your* subiect as also against the said Iohn yard & Hughe Mead  
 for that they vtterly disliked the said vnseemely & disorderly shewes did  
 vnlawfully conspire & practize together further & in more disgracefull  
 manner to scandalize & defame the good names & reputacions of *your* said  
 subiect & the said Hughe Mead & Iohn yard by some open & publike 40  
 disgrace & infamy to be offred vnto them And for that intent & purpose the  
 said riotous & disordered persons <sup>^</sup>by the abetment aforesaid<sup>1</sup> did on or

about the ffive & twentieth day of Iune last past in the said ffiveth yere of  
your Maiesties said raigne maliciously & slaunderously procure a Boord of a  
yard longe & half a yard broad to be painted by the said Walter Smith with  
a picture of a woman in the middest thereof havinge a hatt in the one hand  
& a brush in the other & likewise the pictures of two men by her on the same  
boord the one standing on the one side the other on the other side of her In  
the lower part or bottome of *which* boord vnder the feete of the said pictures  
there were nyne seuerall round holes each of the bignes of a ball made & cutt  
throughe the same The *which* boord thus painted & cutt was sett vpright  
vpon on other boord likewise a yard long & half a yard brode *which* served  
as an vnder boord or table for a ball to be truckled or trundled vpon into any  
of the said holes By *which* boord beinge each of them a yard longe the said  
confederates & riotors alluded to the name of the said Iohn yard And by the  
said picture of a woman being portrayed as neare to the likenes of the then  
& yett wyfe of the said Iohn yard as the painter therof could devise the said  
confederates laboured to resemble & portraite the said wyfe of the said Iohn  
yard painting theron a brush in one of her handes & a hatt in the other therby  
to note & signify that her husband was an hatter or haberdasher & selle(.) of  
hattes of *which* said trade the said Iohn yard then was & yett is And by the  
said two pictures of men being drawen & forme(.) the one as neare to the  
liknes & resemblaunce of *your* said subiect Iohn Hole & the other as neare  
to the liknes & resemblaunce of the said Hughe Mead as the said Painter  
could devise the said confederates endeavoured to represent *your* subiect &  
the said Hughe Mead The *which* boordes thus fastened together the one  
standinge vpright vpon the other & painted with the said pictures & Nyne  
holes as aforesaid the said confederators in further accomplishment &  
exec(.)cion of theire said combynacion plott & practize haue vnlawfully  
routeously & riotously assembled & gathered together Three thousand  
persons by soundinge of drommes armed & weaponed as aforesaid in *your*  
said City vpon or about the said ffive & twentieth day of Iune in the said  
ffiveth yere of *your* Maiesties said raigne & did then & there procure & cause  
to be openly carryed on horsbacke throughe the streates of *your* said City  
by the said William Gamage with two other persons rydinge on two other  
horses on bothe sides of him namely one Iasper (*blank*) servant to the said  
Iohn Guilbert ryding one the right side of the said Gamage having a deske  
before him with a paper booke & penne and yncke vpon it representinge a  
sc(.)vener or notary to sett downe in writinge whatsoever the said Gamage  
should appoint him; the other ryding on the other side of the said Gamage  
with a payre of Cardes & a Noddy boord betweene both *which* persons the  
said Gamage riding in the middest with his said boordes having a little ball

or boule in his hand did cast & trundle the said Boule or ball vpon the said  
 vnder boord towards the said nyne holes sayinge with a loud voyce soe as  
 many people might heare him he Holes it for a Crowne, & then prsently it  
 was answered aloud by some other of that confederacy standinge by & then  
 & there appoincted for that purpose he Holes it not within a Yard for a  
 Crowne therby meaning & naming *your* said subiect Iohn Hole by alludinge  
 to his name & the said Iohn Yard who dwelleth at the signe of the Crowne  
 After which speeches oftentimes vsed some other of the said confederacy did  
 then & there in like sort with a loud voyce often say vnto the said Gamage  
 theis wordes (*videlicet*) Holinge is against the kinges proclamacion & not  
 sufferable in the streates & therfore yf you will needes Hole it goe Hole it in  
 the Mead, whervpon the said Gamage speaking to the said pretended scribe  
 or Notary said with a loud voyce, Sett it downe Notary Holinge is against  
 the kinges proclamacion therby not only derydinge *your* Maiesties said  
 proclamacion but also slaunderously traducing the said Hughe Mead &  
*your* subiect Iohn Hole & that in the viewe & prsence of three thousand  
 people at the leaste By all which devises pictures & wordes the said leud &  
 ill disposed persons laboured falsely & vnworthely to defame the honest  
 reputacions of *your* subiect & of the said Iohn Yard, Hughe Mead & the  
 wyfe of the said Iohn Yard & therby to cast an ymputacion & scandall of  
 incontineny vpon them. All which representacions the said assembly then  
 easily apprehended & perceived to be soe meant & intended All which said  
 disordered shewes games & vncyvill sportes drumming & outcryinge were  
 vsed contynued & maynteyned aswell vpon working dayes as vpon holly dayes  
 & saboth days from the last day of Aprill in the same ffifverth yere of *your*  
 Maiesties raigne vntill the said last day of Iune then next followinge without  
 any surcease or intermission Towarde the Common charge & expences of  
 which shewes & spectacles Robert Creese & Thomas Hall beinge then the  
 Churchwardens of that *parishe* & the said Edmond white & hi(.) wyfe Vertue  
 Hunt & others of the said Confederators [by the incorragment of the abettors  
 aforesaid] then made vnlawfull assessemets taxes collections vpon the  
 inhabitantes of *your* said Towne daylie & by collor therof vnduly vnlawfully  
 & without warrant collected & gathered of sundry persons there great *sommes*  
 of money & other rewardes for that purpose to the extreame hinderaunce of  
 many poore persons there that by them were compelled against their willes  
 to contribute vnto the said vnlawfull sportes & exercises & to withdrawe &  
 spare suche their contribucion from the necessary releefes of their wyfes  
 children & famely And *your* said subiect dothe further shewe & informe  
 vnto *your* most excellent Maiestie That the said Iohn Guilbert William

13/ is: corrected from in

31/ taxes: for taxes &amp; (?)

38/ famely: for famelycs (?)

Gamage ⁊ Edmonde whyte<sup>1</sup> & the rest of the said confederators still practizinge  
 to disgrace the good name of *your* said subiect & of the said Iohn Yard,  
 Humfrey Palmer, & Hughe Mead did in or about the moneth of Iuly in the  
 said ffifte yere of *your Maiesties* said raigne at Welles aforesaid devise make  
 & putt into writinge publishe & divulge for the purpose aforesaid one false  
 slaunderous infamous & wicked Libell in Ryme or verse against *your* said  
 subiect therby maliciously & slaunderously defaming & disgracinge *your*  
 said subiect & the said Iohn Yard Hughe Mead & Humphrey Palmer &  
 therby settinge foorth & expressinge the said disordered sportes shewes &  
 representacions which infamous libell or ryme followeth in theis wordes  
 (videlicet) My lovinge frindes that loue to play vse not my holyng game by  
 day, for in the night I take it best when all the birdes are in their neast, yett I  
 doe lyve in quiett rest and thinke my holinge game the best. And lovinge  
 frindes I cannot chuse but nowe leaue of all sportes to vse save only paper  
 yncke & pen to write the sportes of Welles May men. yett I doe lyve &c.  
 which nowe in short I shall recite as fast as I with pen canne write & bringe  
 the same vnto my mynd you shall therin theis May games fynd Yett I doe lyve  
 &c. Nowe first the Lorde of May came in with all his men attending him  
 with true love knottes most fynely knitte & euery thing most fyne & neat.  
 yett do I &c. You virgins all of every sort who with *your* wealth maynteine  
 the sport greeue not thoughte some at it doe frowne they live not loved in our  
 Towne: Yett doe I &c. The musicke in *your* dauncinge sport, was ioye vnto  
 the greater sort that was to all suche great delight that none would part out  
 of theire sight: yett doe I &c. The warlike Captaines stout & bould came  
 there theire meetinges to behould marchinge alonge with all theire trayne  
 throughout the Towne & backe agayne: yett doe I &c. The gallant Pinner  
 with good regard came with his men as it was hard, singinge a songe of  
 Wakefield greene & had great prayse where he was seene yet doe I &c. And  
 Robbyn Hoodd was likewise scene with all his gallantes rayed in greene theire  
 arrowes were a longe Clothe yard yf it be true as I haue heard. yett doe I &c.  
 A sparked Calfe as I haue heard was brought to shewe vnto theire Maye but  
 afterwarde was slayne in fight for darkeninge of the way too light yett doe I  
 &c. Drummes ffifes & trumpettes did sound a pace the Countrey held that  
 noe disgrace vnto our towne to make resort to heare the roringe Canon shott

Collation with sheets 21(A) and 83(B): 11 my] the AB 12 neast] nestes A 13 thinke]  
 thinkinge A 14 save] AB omit 16 shall] will B 16–18 which nowe ... lyve &c.]  
 A omits 18 Lorde] lordes A, lord[es] B 19 love] loves AB 23 would] could A  
 24 warlike] worldlike B 29 rayed in] arrayed in B 28–30 And Robbyn ... I &c.]  
 A omits 31 haue heard] hard saie as A, hard saye B 31 to shewe vnto theire Maye]  
 vnto them in their waye A, vnto them in theyr maye B 33 trumpettes] trumpe A  
 33 held] hold A 33 that] at B 34 towne] A omits 34 Canon] cannot B

yett doe I &c. Our gallant mynded martiall trayne did on the Crosse our sport  
 maynteine, & ecke St George did greatly grace with thunderinge peeces in  
 that place, yett doe I &c. Then did St George of Welles proceed withall his  
 knightes most brave indeede theire Irishe footemen did attend & all men did  
 the same comend: yett doe I &c. Then came also two men in hayre betwixt  
 them bothe one Egge did beare & each of them a forked post for to preserve  
 that egge from lost. yett doe I &c. And were not theis well laden men that bare  
 one egge betwixt them then vpon a Coulstaffe & two restes to ease their  
 shoulders when they liste. yett doe I &c. Ould grandam Bunche that filthy  
 slutt had in a pott one filthy gutt & puddinges made as she went throughe all  
 the towne in a wheele barrowe yett doe I &c. Acteon from man converted was  
 into an hart & soe did passe along the streates & seene of all & all him chast  
 to see him fall. yett doe I &c. Dyana sometimes fayre & bright with sixe  
 nymphes clothed all in white rode in a Coache in stately sort as all men can  
 the same report yett doe I &c. Likewise in white there were sixe men which  
 caryed Noath stately then at worke & framinge of an Arke which pleased all  
 them which did it marke yett doe I &c. The Gyant & the Gyauntesse in lofty  
 manner looked precise one after the other by degree which was most pleasaunt  
 for to see yett doe I &c. ffoure gallant knightes two of a side before the Egipt  
 kinge did ryde eight Irish footemen pages were attendinge on the kinge most  
 rare. yett doe I &c. The Egipt kinge in riche array rode on a gallant steed that  
 day & carryed was his Queene soe riche as never here was any suche yett doe  
 I &c. Also there might many a man haue seene the plate most stately then  
 brought in a pageant throughe the Towne by eight in lawne with great renowne  
 yett doe I &c. Then instantly vpon the same came many there of worthy fame  
 to shewe theire lovingnes in sight as it appeared then that night yett doe I &c.  
 Then presently ensued the meat three hundred dishes throughe the streat vnto  
 the place where there was spent money largely to good intent yett doe I &c.  
 This beinge done which here is said all then repayre homewardest made the  
 fyrre Dragon lay in wayt for to deuoure the princesse straight yett doe I &c.  
 But I St George of Welles comend & all his knightes that did attend that  
 wrought the dragons great decaye & saved the prynces lyfe that day yett doe

Collation with sheets 21(A) and 83(B): 4 theire] Them A 5 came also] also came  
 A 5 in hayre] here A 6 one] an A 6 each] eake A 8 one] an A 9 filthy]  
 filthe and B 12 into] in B 12 chast] chase A 13 doe I] doe I leue A, doe I  
 live B 15 doe I] doe I Live B 16 Noath] Noach AB 16 at worke] And at  
 worke A, at worke[ing] B 16-17 all them which] all them that AB 17 did it  
 marke] yt did marke A, hyt did marke B 17 doe I] doe I [live] B 17 the] B omits  
 18 precise] precised A 21 The] A omits 23 many] A omits 23 plate] place B  
 24 in a pageant] in a page out A 25-6 Then ... &c.] interlined in B 27 ensued]  
 yssued A 29 here] there AB 29 repayre] repaired AB



I &c. Our Citizens gallant grave & wise came to our sport & sawe the prize  
 they did also the same frequent enioyed therby in mynd content yett doe I  
 &c. An other day a shewe was made with tinckers & with men of trade a  
 hatter & a grocer then there were seene on horsebacke sellinge ware yett doe I  
 &c. Also a Spynner then did ryde two vserers likewise all in pryde that they  
 theire money would haue lend but all in vayne & to noe end yett doe I &c.  
 ffor they did lend it at suche rate as would vndoe a man of state noe man  
 would deale at any hand for feare of forfeitinge theire bond yett doe I &c.  
 All thinges here in eache degree did please both towne & countrey without  
 offence at all to any but was comended muche of many yett doe I &c. Nowe  
 puddinge wyves haue lost theire trade & hatters doe begynne to fade the  
 Spinners tournes are held in scorne & vserers are hardly borne yett doe I &c.  
 But I as duty byndes comend & him I loved as my frind who me soe well at  
 Holes preferred that nowe therfore I lye in warde yett doe I &c. Before theis  
 Pageantes there did goe by art a naked feathered boy who in his hand a sword  
 did beare still makinge roome before them there yett doe I &c. Nowe for the  
 gentles I will pray which kept vs companye all the Maye & never left vs to  
 th'end that god may ever those defende yett god graunt that all may lyve in  
 rest with ioye to say my game is best: Finis. which Libell doth scandalize &  
 defame your said subiect Iohn Hole in the wordes (Spynner) & the spyninge  
 tourne held in scorne & the Holinge game throughout the said libell alludinge  
 to your said subiect Iohn Hole his name & trade & the Hatter alludeth to  
 the said Iohn yard his trade & the mercer to the said Palmer his trade & the  
 Tinker to the said Meades trade beinge a pewterer The which infamous libell  
 aswell the said Edmond white & Thomasyne his wyfe as also all the rest of  
 the said confederates & ill disposed persons did oftentimes in & since the said  
 Moneth of Iuly read singe & publish & caused to be read sunge or published  
 & scattered diuers coppys thereof in Welles aforesaid & in diuers & sundry  
 other places Townes & parishes bothe within your said County of Somersett  
 & elsewhere After which disorders & abuses soe comitted Sir Thomas fleminge  
 knight Lord cheif Iustice of England & Sir Lawrence Tanfield knight Lord  
 cheif Baron of your highnes Court of Exchequer being then your Maiesties  
 Iustices of Assise for your said County of Somersett & being informed of the  
 said abuses sent theire lettres to the then Lord Bushop of Bathe & welles &

Collation with sheets 21(A) and 83(B): 1 the] our AB 2 also the same] the same  
 also A 2 in] a A 5 then] that AB 6 noe] non A 8 I] I liue A 11 doe] they  
 AB 12 held] hold A 13-14 soe well at Holes] at hooles so well B 14 theis] these  
 A 17 gentles] gentile B 17 Maye] waye A 18 those] these A 18 yett] yett do  
 I &c A

vnto ffrauncis Iames doctor of the lawes being then Iustices of *your maiesties* peace in the said County for the due examynacion of some of the said misdemeanors who duringe all the outrages aforesaid were in the Citty of London attendinge *your Maiesties* highe Court of Parliament. By vertue of which *lettres* the said Lord Bushop doctor Iames & Thomas Hughes Esquier a Iustice of peace also in *your* said County being named [therin] <sup>1</sup>in the said *lettres*<sup>1</sup> after their retorne into Welles aforesaid from *your* said parliament, made a precept or warrant in writinge vnder theire handes & seales expressly menconinge the direction & pleasure of *your* said Iustices of Assise and directed the same vnto *your* said subiect Iohn Hole beinge then Constable for the apprehendinge & bringinge of the said Edmond White beinge a principall offender before them: which precept or warrant *your* said subiect duly executed in or about the <sup>1</sup>said<sup>1</sup> moneth of August vpon the said Edmond White who readinge the same warrant in the hand of *your* said subiect suddenly snatched the same out of the hand of *your* said subiect & crimplinge & wringing the same together did putt it into his pockett & therewith vyolently rushed & rescued himself from *your* said subiect affirminge in most scornfull manner that he would not obey the said warrant nor appeare thervpon before the said Lord Bushop & doctor Iames & Thomas Hughes nor before any them <sup>1</sup>the said Edmond whyte beinge shortly after apprehended by a seconde warrant made by the said Bishoppe and doctor Iames by vertue of the said *lettres* the said Alexaunder Towse then Maior of the said Citty with other made a counter warrant for the said whyte in the nature of a Supersedias to checke the said warrant<sup>es</sup> and in contempte of the saide letters<sup>1</sup> And albeit that the said Sir Thomas ffleming knight then and yett Lord cheif Iustice of *your Maiesties* benche and one of *your* said Iustices of Assises did vpon examynacion of some of the said misdeameanors at the said Assises held in Sommerset last past in the said ffifveth yeare of *your maiesties* said raigne at Taunton for *your* said County of Somersett committe and buynd over to theire good behavior some of the said malefactors as an example to warne and admonishe them and theire confederates not to contynewe theire said misdemeanors nor after to attempt the lyke Yett neverthelesse suche was & still is the mallice and bouldnes of them & the said confederates that the said George Greenstreat vertue Hunt Edmond white and Thomasine his wyfe Henry ffoster, william Peters and the rest of the said disordered persons herein before named haue not only since the said Assises at diuers times & in sondry places in *your* County of Somersett sunge the said infamous libell or Ryme and published the same by readinge and givinge foorth Copyes therof to very many persons bothe in welles and elsewhere without any respect regard or reverence to the said Lord cheif Iustice or his authority in *your* said Countye but at length they grewe into suche

fancy & likinge therof as that since the Assises held for the said County at Taunton in the said ffiveth yeare of your Ma<sup>i</sup>esties raigne they tooke order with the said Thomas Haggett for to haue the <sup>Λ</sup>[same] ymprinted at London which said Libell the said Haggett thervpon brought to London for that purpose and delyvered to a booke seller to gett it printed and soe published 5 throughout your said kingdome which accordingly had beene done to the extreame wronge abuse & discreditt of your said subiect yf the same had not by the said booke buynder and your said subiect beene prevented And your said subiect dothe further shewe and informe your most excellent ma<sup>i</sup>estie That the said <sup>Λ</sup>[Willyam Evans] William Williams *alias* Morgan Iunior Edmond 10 White, William Peters and the rest of the said Confederates still practizinge to disgrace the good name of your said subiect and of the said Humfrey Palmer Iohn Yard & Hughe Mead about the Moneth of September in the ffiveth yere of your Ma<sup>i</sup>esties said raigne at Welles aforesaid haue devised, framed made putt in writinge published and divulged for the purpose aforesaid one other 15 false slaunderous infamous & wicked libell in Ryme or verse or Epygram against your said subiect and against the said Iohn Yard Hughe Mead & Humfrey Palmer <sup>Λ</sup>[and scattered coppyes therof which Lybell Ryme or Epygrame ys] in theis wordes (*videlicet*) Tell me of fleshe: tutt noe, giue me the ffishe, the heatinge Oyster or the Spawne of Coddex, the Crudity of Lobsters 20 is the dishe, that soe excelles all other fry by oddes Thus mounsier Lechers secreat fishy sleight is but to stirre his fleshly appetite. Softe who goes there? what P. and P. and P. Poxe, Puncke, and Puritane? the divill it is, ant may be soe for Sir sometimes wee see, Poxe plagueth Puncke for Puritans amisse; well be it as t'will ile not precisely tell, but it me thinkes it iumpeth wonderous 25 well. What holla ho? yee pampered Asian Iades, must men of note and worth be your comrades? howe growes it? men more base then stinge and fleirt are thus become soe proud and malapert, shall every Rascall and vyle Iobernoll a Citties quintessence of witt controule stayninge the greatnes of his reputacion with scurrile iestes in suche abusive fashion boldly reproveing to the very face 30 his secreat vices to his huge disgrace yf it be soe nay yf it must be soe aucthority shall in his fullnes showe his furious vigor of incensed wrath vnsheathes it self mercy noe entraunce hathe but what sterne Iustice giues and wodden stockes canne mynister for suche rebellious folkes neither regard of conscience

Collation with sheets 21(A) and 83(B): 19 tutt noe] but not A 20 Spawne] sperme A 21 mounsier] Mounseers A 23 Poxe] Pope B 23 ant] & A 24 Poxe] Pope A, Poope B 24 plagueth] plungeth A 24 well] AB omit 25 ile] I will A 25 it] yet AB 26 yee] yea A 26 must] but A 27 growes] growe A 29 controule] contrould B 30 scurrile] scurville A 30 abusive] a busie A 31 yf<sup>2</sup>] AB omit 32 vnsheathes] vnsheates A

nor of piety noe nor the strict bond of a pure society shall by heavens azure  
 welkin once assuage the smallest sparkell of my burninge rage Tis not your  
 horned horse ye hungry soules nor the weake gambole of your pigeon holes  
 shall buckler yee nor any that manure it canne fleshe composed of muddy  
 earth endure it? rather then ile beare soe vile ill suffringe thrall ile spend my  
 flatt cap pouche my hose and all. Why? what care I to compasse my intent  
 much wealth be lost much time vpon't be spent, in informacion trottinge to  
 and fro, to skud to veaze to hackney come & goe, I value it not foure galiard  
 friskin skippes to spend heerein an hundred goulden Chippes To reobtayne  
 by it my credittes Wynninge I hould not soe much as vnyall synninge; Thus  
 talkinge (Campant) one of mad condicion standes nymbly vp made conge  
 of lowe submission and said thy pride & stubborne insolence dothe meritte  
 nought but scorninge & expence I'st possible that Capten Fa: ra: ra: Cameleon  
 like is tourned Apostata by sweete St Iohane hee's like a felters hatte turnd  
 wronge side outward, but Sir wott yee what? he dares not looke a pigmey in  
 the face muche lesse a gya(.) or a dragons arse, Nay more then that he cannot  
 brooke the noyse of flute or fyfe nor trumpettes stately voyce, nor canne he  
 once abyde the stroke of drumme nor smoke of powder but the smocke of  
 some A gunn quoth he handes of forbear for(.)eare his reas(.)ns good twill  
 burne his lady ware hees growen so ympotent he cannot weild his launce nor  
 pike nor scarce can beare his sheild but yett (potentiall) he can breake his  
 speare on venus Darlinge with a full Careere: Which said infamous libell last  
 mencioned was soe made and devised and afterwarde divulged and published  
 by the said Confederators to scandalize the good names and reputacions of  
 your subiect and of the said Mead Palmer and Yard for that they complayned  
 to the right honora(.)le the Lord cheif Iustice of England and other honorable  
 personages in authority of the said misdemeanors As alsoe the said laste  
 libell is against your Subiectt terminge your Subiectt Rascall and vyle  
 Iobbenowle for that your Subiectt sought as abovesaid reformation of the  
 said abuses whiche abuses the said Libell calleth the Cittesons Quintezens of  
 wytt<sup>1</sup> And your subiect further sheweth and informeth your most excellent

Collation with sheets 21(A) and 83(B): 1 piety] pittie A 1 noe] A omits 2 burninge] furious A 3 ye] the A 4 yee nor] yow or AB 5 ile'] I will A 5 ill] yle A, a B 6 my hose] & horse A 7 vpon't] vp ont A 9 heerein] therein AB 9 an] & A 9 Chippes] shippes A 10 it] yt yt B 10 not] yt not AB 11 condicion] condicions B 11 conge] rouffe A 13 Fa: ra: ra:] Fa: va: va: AB 14 hee's] he is A 15 Sir] AB omit 15 yee] yow AB 15 dares] dare B 15 pigmey] pigney AB 16 gya(.)] giantt A, giant B 17 flute] flatt B 17 nor] or AB 19 for(.)eare] forbear AB 19 reas(.)ns] reaso'ns<sup>1</sup> A, reasons B 20 ware] warne A 22 on] in A

11/ Campant: for Rampant (see p 717, l 19)

19/ gunn: 5 minims in MS

Maiestie That the said Edmond white and the said Confederators by the  
 a<sup>1</sup>abettment<sup>1</sup> confederacy and conspiracy aforesaid in August last in the said  
 ffifveth yere of your highnes raigne caused divers persons to the nnumber of  
 Tenne some of them beinge of the Confederates aforesaid to be precepted to  
 appere before Beniamyn Haydon late Deane of Welles deceased Who by him 5  
 were examyned and bound over by recognizaunce to giue evidence against  
 your said subiect at the assises then ymediatly followinge never callinge your  
 subiect to answerre the same And for that there was nothinge iustly by them  
 to be objected against your said subiect at the said Assises the said White and  
 the rest of the said Confederates a<sup>1</sup>and abettors<sup>1</sup> (...)used abetted and procured 10  
 some of them that were soe bound over to frame severall bills of indictment  
 of battry against your subiect And therby two of those Bills of indictment were  
 then found By meanes wherof your said subiect was compelled to traverse  
 them to his great charges only to avoyd their further divelish plottes of  
 conspiracy and to preserve his owne innocency and your subiect therof 15  
 afterwarde was lawfully acquitted albeit the said Edmond White vniustly  
 plotted therein against your subiect And the said vertue Hunt one of the said  
 Confederators gloryinge in the said misdoinges the Nyneteenth Daye of  
 October last past at a solemne feast in Welles aforesaid in the hearinge of  
 many people said of the said Edward Wadham one of the Confederators 20  
 aforesaid and a great patron procurer furtherer and director of the rest of the  
 said Malefactors and of their said vnlawfull pastimes and proceedinges That  
 he meaninge the said Edward Wadham had the love of the whole Towne of  
 Wells except of the Tribe of manyasses therby abusinge the phrase of scripture  
 and many personages of place that endeavoured the suppressinge of the said 25  
 misdeameanors And to make the height of mallice bouldnes and insolency  
 of the said Confederates to appeare the said William Atwill at a common  
 Convocacion or publike meetinge houlden at Welles aforesaid in or aboutes  
 the Moneth of October last past said openly in the hearinge of other of the  
 said Confederators a<sup>1</sup>and abettors<sup>1</sup> and of divers others that those of the said 30  
 Malefactors that were comitted by the Lord cheif Iustice as aforesaid at the  
 said Assises were wrongfully punished wherto your subiect then replyed that  
 he the said William Atwill should answerre those wordes for that the said  
 Lord cheif Iustice was noe wrongedoer wherto the said Atwill then and there  
 replyed doe what you canne/ I will answerre it a<sup>1</sup>And the said ffoster and the 35  
 said confederators and abettors haue sythence the said disorders begunne  
 allowed them selves out of the rentes and reuenues of the said Cityte and of  
 the Church stocke there Twentye poundes in monye or there aboutes towarde  
 the defence and countenance of the said abuses as appeareth in the [account of  
 the said ffo] seuerall accountes of the said ffoster and Creese made in October 40  
 Anno Domini 1607<sup>1</sup> All which prophancacions conspiracies abettmentes  
 practizes riottes routes (...)lawfull assemblies makinge contrivinge divulginge

& publishinge of libelles & all other the offences abuses and misdemeanors  
aforesaid were done and committed as aforesaid sithence *your maiesties* last  
gratious and generall pardon and were done and committed to the great and  
manifest breache and (...)ontempt of the good lawes and statutes of this *your*  
highnes Realme and are a most *perilous* example yf the same should escape  
vnpunished and haue been and are to the great discreditt losse damage and  
hinderaunce of *your* said subiect In tender consideration wherof And to the  
end the said offenders may receiue the punishment to them due for theire  
soe greevous offences as also that *your* said subiect may be releued for the  
great wronges to him done by the said malefactors and theire confederates as  
aforesaid May it therfore please *your* most excellent *Maiestie* to graunt vnto  
*your* said subiect *your* highnes most gracious writtes of Subpœna to be directed  
to the said Edmond White Thomas Haggett William Williams *alias* Morgan  
*Junior*, Robert Atwill, Iohn Rodway, Olyver Martin, Walter Smith, Mathewe  
Lancaster, Thomasin White, Thomas Bison, Steeven Millerde, Vertue Hunt,  
Henry ffoster, Thomas Peeters, (...)hn Guilbert, George Greenestreat, William  
Pope, Olyver Martin, Phillipp Trickett, William Watkins, William Peeters,  
Edward Cary, William Atwill, William Stott, Robert Lane, William Gamage,  
Edward Wadham Iames Lydeard Iohn Smith ^ Iohn Hodges *alias* Hiscockes  
Robert Creese Thomas Halle Leonarde Crosse Willyam Evans Willyam Bull  
Alexaunder Towse Iames Godwyn^ (...)d vnto every of them comaunding  
them and every of them therby at a certeine day and vnder a certeine payne  
therin to be lymitted *personally* to be and appeare before *your* highnes and  
others the Lordes of *your Maiesties* most honorable Courte of Starrechamber  
then and there (...) answerre the premisses and farther to stand vnto and  
abyde suche order and direction therin & to receiue suche condigne  
punishment for their said greevous offences as to *your* highnes and the said  
honorable Court shalbe thought meete and agreable with Iustice And *your*  
said (...)biect accordinge to his most bounden duty shall and will daylie praye  
to almighty god for *your Maiesties* happye and peaceable raigne over vs.//.

(signed) Henry Hobarte  
Montague  
Crew Iohn Walker  
Robert Eyre

*Interrogatories for Principal Defendants in Hole v. White et al*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 220\* (10-15 May)

Intergatoryes to be ministred to Edmond White, Thomasine  
his wife Thomas Haggatt William Williams *alias* Morgan senior  
Thomas Byson Oliver Martin Mathew Lancaster defendautes  
at the suite of Iohn Hole *complaynant*

5

...

- 3 Item did you or other by your meanes or procurement vpon the said Third 10  
Daye of May in the said fifte yere of his *Maiesties* Raigne procure Robart  
Mayne Iohn Mayne and one Thomas wingood to play with Taber and ffidles  
before a greate Companye that Day assembled in Welles aforesaid, yf yea Did  
the Complaynant then tell you or any other there that those meetinges were  
against his *maiesties* Proclamacion, and offer to apprehend the said [Maynes], 15  
Iohn and Robart Mayne and Thomas Wingood or any or Every of them,  
and Require you or any others to aide the Complaynant whether did you or  
other notwithstandinge, aide the said fidlers or Minstrelles then against the  
Complaynant, and Rayled at the complaynant, sayinge he lyed like a knave  
and that the minstrelles should not goe with the complaynant or wordes to 20  
the like effect

- 4 Item vpon the said Third day of maye in the said fiveth yere <sup>1</sup>of his *maiesties*  
*raigne*<sup>1</sup> did you or any by your meanes or procurement take away or Rescuse 25  
in Welles aforesaid the said Robert Mayne out of the *handes* or Custodye of  
the Complaynant and did Divers of the <sup>1</sup>company then assembled<sup>1</sup> whope  
and shoute thereat, yf yea, wheather after in the same day and yere, did the  
Complaynant againe, ymprison the said Mayne and others, fyndinge them  
then at Cardes in tyme of Devine service and did you or any other, and whoe  
did then presently enlarge the said Mayne and others by your meanes or 30  
procurement, and whether then presently the same <sup>1</sup>day & yere<sup>1</sup> did the said  
Iohn and Robert Mayne and Thomas Wingoode play againe before the said  
assembly, And did you then say they shoulde be your Minstrelles, lendingge  
one of your garters to tye one of there fidelles. Speake the truthe hereof and  
of Every *parte* thereof 35

- 5 Item vpon the said Third day of May and yere abouesaid <sup>1</sup>[beinge Sunday  
whoe were chosen and named lordes and ladyes, yf yea what or where you  
&]<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>did you<sup>1</sup> with many others and howe many did [...]<sup>1</sup> daunce hand in

hand in Welles aforesaid till you came or daunced nere to the Complaynantes house <sup>Λ</sup>and there whopt & hallowed & beate vp drummes<sup>1</sup> And <sup>Λ</sup>did<sup>1</sup> youe or they and howe many of them did goe or daunce there hence, vntill you came to a Taverne in the said Towne, And did you and your Companye thence Contynewe Dancinge the Longe dance till you <sup>Λ</sup>[m<...>]<sup>1</sup> [met the] did meete the Complainant, yf yea did you or any by your Meanes then thrust[<.>] and lustle the complaynant and compasse in the complaynant and beate or stricke vpp one or two [d<...>s] <sup>Λ</sup>drummes<sup>1</sup> Round aboute or nere the playnant whoe did soe, and howe often did you or any <sup>Λ</sup>other so<sup>1</sup>, And was the playnant Willinge to haue avoided the noise of the <sup>Λ</sup>saide<sup>1</sup> Drummes and did you or any then in your Compa<.>y soe compasse him that he could not De<.>art thence

...

- 9 Item Did you or any other by your Abettment or procurement vpon Assencion Day in the said ffifeth yere of the kinges maiesties Raigne apparell Diuers boyes and Maydes in Woomans apperell, yf yea wheather did those boyes and maydes both before and after service that Day soe apparelled goe aboute the streetes of the said towne with other Companye of Morice dauncers Drummes Musketes and other shewes whereby <sup>Λ</sup>there weare<sup>1</sup> two thousand persons <sup>Λ</sup>or theareabouts<sup>1</sup> there assembled from Divers places, from there Churches and Devine service to beholde the said Shewes, and whether the said boyes and maydes were not kept in an Inn or Garden and ellswere with diuers other at prayer tyme that Day.

...

- 11 Item on the xvijth Day of May last in the said ffifeth yere <sup>Λ</sup>of ye kings maiesties Raigne<sup>1</sup> beinge a Saboth day, D<.>d you or any other procure or Hire one Thomas Wingood to play on the [table] <sup>Λ</sup>Taber<sup>1</sup> in Welles aforesaid, yf yea howe manye persons were then assembled followinge the said Wingood whoping and shotinge in Welles aforesaid, and whether Did the Complaynant then apprehend the said Wingood and Commit him to the Custodye of christofer Croker and Richard Croker, and whether Did you or any other of the Defendantes and whoe Did by your procurement or encoragement then and there beate and Hurte the said christofer Crooker and Richard Crooker or eyther of them and Raile at the Complaynant and thrust the complaynant into the Gutter, and Rescued and tooke from them the said Wingood, and whether Did you then saye to the complaynant that he shoulde not haue away

2/ there: corrected from then

5-6/ did meete the: written in left margin for insertion here

6/ Complainant: 2 minims for in in MS

9/ often: corrected from after

11/ could: 4 minims in MS

14-15/ Assencion Day: 14 May 1607

16/ Maydes: y written over i

16/ in Woomans apperell: written over erasur



the said Wingood you beinge Required by the Defendant to Aide him speake your trewe knowledge hereof and of Euery parte thereof.

...

- 14 Item whether did you hier and keepe in your house from the fourthe of may in the ffiveth yere of his *maiesties* Raigne to the End of the moneth of Iune <sup>5</sup> <sup>1</sup> 'followinge' or neare therabouts Iohn Rodway a Drummer, And whether he Drummed not euery of those Dayes in welles aforesaid in the streetes there, and vpon the one and Thirteth Day of the moneth of May beinge Trenitye Sunday in the yere aforesaid, Did you or any of the *Defendants*, or which of them Did by your Meanes or procurement or otherwise, hire or procure <sup>10</sup> two other Drummers, which two with the said Radway struck vp the said Daye three greate Drumes in Welles aforesaid, yf yea, was therevpon a thousand <sup>1</sup> 'people' and more assembled and whether by Reason thereof, many were not then and there absent from Church and Sermon the same Day, by Reason that some of the said company were then Attyringe of virgins and boyes & <sup>15</sup> preparing of other shewes, to be in Readines against the Afternoone speake the truthe and of Every parte thereof

...

- 17 Item Did you about the xvij<sup>th</sup> day of Iune in the said ffiveth yere of his *maiesties* Raigne Rid with a grey beard and fflexen haire aboute any the streetes <sup>20</sup> in Welles <sup>1</sup> 'aforesayde' with a brushe in one hand and a hatt in the other and with other hattes hanginge at your Girdle, yf yea, whoe did get you the said horse grey bearde and fflexen haire and brushe and Hattes or any parte of your any other apperell for that purpose, And Did the owners thereof, knowe you were to Ride soe with it, And at whose house, did you then take horse, <sup>25</sup> whoe procured you soe to Ride, and whoe cheapened your Hattes, tell there names, And wheather as you Roode you vsed not theis or the like Wordes, Vizt that you had as good hattes to sell as any mr yarde hade speake the truthe vpon your oathe

30

- 18 Item did you aboute the said xvij<sup>th</sup> day of Iune in the said ffiveth yere of his *maiesties* Raigne, Ridd a stride in a Reade Petticott kercheff and Muffler, or some womans apparell aboute the streetes in welles <sup>35</sup> <sup>1</sup> 'aforesaide' then holdinge a spinninge Whele vppon the Horse before you and Worsted Wooll vpon a Distaffe then turninge the said Wheale as you Roode, yf yea, at whose house Did you then take horse whoe did procure you the said horse and wheale and Woole and whose was yt, or any parte of yt, And Did the owners thereof knowe you were to Ride soe with it and what are there names, And wherethere

1/ Defendant: for Complaynant

6/ Rodway: o written over another letter, possibly a or e

25/ did you then: corrected from bid you them

38/ names: 3 minims for n in MS

38/ wherethere: for whethere

did <sup>^</sup>[you] saye as you soe Rode, that yt was holes woole and then sange hole hole, or wordes to that effect and whose was the horse that you soe Rid vpon, speake the very truthe vpon [your] your oathe

- 19 Item did you or any of the *Defendants* <sup>^</sup>[& which of them did] about the said Eighteenth Daye of Iune, in the said fiftē yere of his *Maiesties* Raigne, Ride on horsback with [lyninge] <sup>^</sup>[any] other face to face Desguised in your apparell with a Deske and Standishe before one of you, and the other havinge bagges filled with Counters or some such thinge in them, yf yea, at whose house <sup>^</sup>Did [you] take horse then and whose horse Deske standishe and bagges Were yt, and whoe procured you or any other to Ride soe and whether Did you or they or one of them that soe Rode then and there say to the company there *presente* that they *presented* the vsurer and Scrivenour and Were to lend money to the Hatter Worstedmaker Pewterer and the mercer, And what paper Did you then carrye in your hand and what was the effect thereof speake the truthe vpon your Oathe./
- ...
- 24 Item Did you or any of the *Defendants* <sup>^</sup>[by] your pryvitey and incoragement, and which of them Did aboute the ffīue and Twentith Day of Iune in the said ffīveth yere of his *Maiesties* Raigne procure a boarde of a yarde Longe to be painted with the Picture of a Woman in the middest thereof havinge a Hatt in the One hande and a Brushe in the other and two men pictured in the said Boarde on eyther side of the said Woman one and vnder the ffete of which pictures there were nyne seuerall holes, And was there not also an vnderbord to trundle a ball in att the holes yf yea, whoe were ment or Resembled by the said Pictures and Whome did the voice of the people then there take them to signifie, And whether Did you then accompanie one Gamadge When he carried the said Borde vpon a Horse in the Streetes in Welles <sup>^</sup>[aforesaide], and Did you then or any other by your encoragement or meanes Lay Wagers or Bett with any that then laied Wagers touchinge the throwinge or trundlinge of any <sup>^</sup>[balles] into the said holes speake the truthe [and of Every parte thereof]
- 25 Item of whome had you the said Bordes or the painter that painted the same and vpon Which the said Pictures were painted, And did the *partye* that gaue you or the paincter the borde knowe to what vse you <sup>^</sup>[or the painter] would ymploy them and was that bord painted carried vpon a Horse by you or any other of the *Defendants* by your procurement, And by which [you] <sup>^</sup>[of them] thorough any streetes <sup>^</sup>[in welles aforesayde] and what Wordes were

10/ <sup>^</sup>Did: caret misplaced

18/ pryvitey: yv written over other letters

20/ Longe: 3 minims in MS

36/ painted: for soe painted(?)

used as yt was Carried, whether Did the party that Rode therewith trundle a Ball or boule towards the said Nynne holes and then said, he holes yt or holes yt not for a Crowne, and whoe was yt that <sup>Λ</sup>soe<sup>1</sup> said or trundled the said ball or boule, yf yea, whether did other then answere he holes yt not within a yard, and that yf you will hole yt, yt must be in a Meade and whoe Did so 5  
 answere, and whether by those wordes the Complaynant and the said yard and Meade were not by you or the partye that soe Rode <sup>Λ</sup>or spake them<sup>1</sup> meent or intended [the] speak ye truthe on your oathe.

- 26 Item did <sup>Λ</sup>not<sup>1</sup> two others there Ride vpon two horses the one of them 10  
 Carriage a Deske before him [with] with a paper booke penn and Innck Representinge a Notary and the other a paire of Cardes and a Nodye Borde, yf yea, wheather did some say to you or the partye that soe Rodde that Holinge was against the kinges proclamacion and not sufferable in the streetes, and which of the Defendants Was yt that soe said and whether Did you or the 15  
 party that soe rode with the bordes or which of the Defendants did then say speakinge to the said Notary, sett yt downe Notary, holinge is against the kinges proclamacion, or what was purposed by you by the said Wordes or by those that spake them or any of them and what was the occacion of the speakinge of the said wordes <sup>Λ</sup>or any of them<sup>1</sup> speak the truthe./ 20

...

- 28 Item in the monethe of May in the said fite yere of his maiestyes <sup>Λ</sup>raigne<sup>1</sup> did you earnestly labour Sir Iohn Rodney knight that he would giue Leaue for a church Ale in Welles aforesaid, and did not he answere he would not giue <sup>Λ</sup>you<sup>1</sup> Leaue for 300 li. or 500 li. Did you notwithstandinge his Refusall 25  
 afterwarde Dele with the late Deane of Welles Deceased for a Churchale and with somme other Iustices, and therevpon by your Earnest sute procured a greate Churchale who we(. .) those that gaue you Leave sett downe there names or elles did you cause the said Churchall of your owne Authortyie speake the truthe./ 30

- 29 Item whether did you or any by your procurement begge money or sett assessmentes or Taxes vpon any persons in Welles aforesaid, <sup>Λ</sup>or in the parishe of St Cuthbertes the(. .)<sup>1</sup> and gathered or caused th(. .) same money Bacon Cheise Corne and other Rewardes to be gathered of them, and whether did 35  
 not you or some by your procurement paye some of the said mon(. .) for the Expences of the Gyaunter filders and other Wages for the bearers or Labourers in the shewes there used in the said monethes of maye or Iune in the said

3/ the said: written in left margin for insertion here

26/ the late Deane of Welles Deceased: Benjamin Heydon, d. by 9 November 1607

ffifte yere of his *maiesties* Raigne, And howe did you imploy the rest of the moneye and things soe gathered and howe much was gathered in all and whoe gaue you auctoritey to aske or gather the same speake the truthe thereof

...

- 38 Item did you or any by your previty or agrement since the said Assizes at Tanton about october in the said ffiveth yere of his *maiesties* Raigne or at any tyme att an Accompt holden by the then Mayor of Welles and you and others aboute the Revenues and yerely proffites of the said towne of Welles Devide and share to your selfe or to any of the *Defendantes* some <sup>1</sup>parte of the said Townestock and of the Profittes thereof towardes the charges or costes or ffees that were expended or laied out by any of the *Defendantes*, or of any other at their beinge at the assizes at Taw<sup>1</sup>n<sup>1</sup>ton<sup>1</sup> aforesayde<sup>1</sup> or elles where in Defence of the said shewes [and Sportes] or for sendinge of any of the *Defendantes* in Mess[u]ages or in Baylinge of any of the *Defendantes* that wer Committed for some of the said shewes [and sportes] howe much Did you allowe of the said towne stock and also off the Church Stock of Ste Cuthbertes in Welles aforesaid and to whom was yt allowed and payed set Downe the persons names that were allowed and the somes they had vpon your oath

...

*Examination of Oliver Martin, Labourer* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 1-1v\* (15 May)

...

To the 11<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory he saieth that neither this defendant nor to his knowledge anie other did vpon the 17 day of May <sup>1</sup>being a Sabaoth daie<sup>1</sup> in the ffifte yere of his *Maiesties* Raigne procure or hire Thomas Wingood mencioned in this Interrogatory to play on the Taber in wells But the saied Thomas wingood being no common Taberer did vpon the same day of his owne goodwill play vpon his Taber in the towne of wells at such tyme as he this defendant Iohn Morgan Steven wason (blank) Blesley, Iohn watkins & some others (whose names he doth not remember then comminge from an ale which was made at a poore weivers house at Corscomb to helpe him) did <sup>1</sup>about 6. of the clock in the eveninge<sup>1</sup> dawnce the Morris through the streete at Welles at which tyme there were in ye streete there assembled to see the

7/ Raigne: 2 minims for i in MS

8/ tyme: m written over another letter

9/ Revenues: R written over another letter; 5 minims for nu in MS

9/ towne: o written over another letter

13/ there: i inserted

18/ persons names: crowded into end of line and right margin

dauncinge of the *saied* morris & such other sportes as ther(.) then were to the number of one hundred Persons  $\wedge$ at the lest<sup>1</sup> [h] some of them hooping & laughing & sporting in merriment as is vsed  $\wedge$ to be done<sup>1</sup> in such like games  $\wedge$ & sportes<sup>1</sup> att which tyme the now Complainant came into the streete  $\wedge$ with christofer Croker & Richard Croker<sup>1</sup> & would have have had the *saied* Wingood & also this defendant & other of the *saied* morris dawncers to Prison And therevpon diuers of the persons assembled in the *saied* streete did thronge together towardes them to know the cause thereof, &  $\wedge$ vppon<sup>1</sup> [in] that iusslinge & thronging together the *saied* christofer Cr(.)ker  $\wedge$ with his fiste<sup>1</sup> strooke this defendant & therevpon this d(...)  $\wedge$ with (...) fist<sup>1</sup> strooke the *saied* christofer Croker againe  $\wedge$ and yen [the *saied*] wingood ran away from (...) (...)panie<sup>1</sup> Bu(.) (...) not knowe that the *saied* Comp(...) I the *saied* wingood nor that he did committ him to ye custody of christofer Cro[o]ker & Richard Croker neither did this defendant beate & hurte the *saied* christofer Croker & Richard Croker or either of them otherwise then is aforesaid neither did this defendant raile at the *saied* Complainant & thrust him into the gutter & rescue & take away the *saied* wingood neither did this defendant say [that]  $\wedge$ vnto<sup>1</sup> the *saied* Complainant that he should not haue the *saied* wingood away neither did anie other Person by this defendantes procurement  $\wedge$ or encouragement<sup>1</sup> doe anie such matter as is mencioned in this Interrogatory And more he saierh he cannot depose therevnto

...

*Examination of Matthew Lancaster, Husbandman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 4\* (15 May)

...  
To the 18. Interrogatory this defendant saierh yat he did in a merrymnt & not otherwise vppon or about the xvij day of Iune last past ride a stride in a redd petticote kercheife & muffler about the streetes in wells holding a spyning whele vppon his horse before him & having worsted woolle vppon a distaffe did turne about the whele as he rode  $\wedge$ a longe the streetes<sup>1</sup> [&]  $\wedge$ And saierh that he then<sup>1</sup> toke first horse at Robert Atwelles house but whose horse the same was or who procured  $\wedge$ the *saied* horse<sup>1</sup> [(.)] this defendant cannot certainly say. but he this defendant found the *saied* horse readie  $\wedge$ in the back side of<sup>1</sup> [at] the said Atwells house & the whele & distaff sett readie[,] at this defendantes comming thither vppon the *saied* horse, But this defendant did not say as he so rode that the same was Holes woolle & singe Hole Hole nor anie wordes to that effecte as is supposed by this Interrogatory.

5/ have have: dittography

12/ Comp(...): 50mm of text missing

*Examination of Thomasine White* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
 sheets 5v-6\* (15 May)

...

To the 5. Interrogatory this *defendant* saith that in May in the 5<sup>th</sup> yere of his  
 Maiesties raigne the day she doth not remember she this *defendant* & sondry  
 other wemen of the *said* Towne and their husbendes in their companie did  
 in sporte and merriment daunce together hand in hand <sup>^</sup>in civill manner<sup>1</sup>  
 alonge the streetes in wells and soe <sup>^</sup>they did<sup>1</sup> passe by <sup>^</sup>in<sup>1</sup> [together] and  
 neere the *said* *Complainantes* howse as they did by other mens howses in the  
*said* Towne Att which tyme they had onely musitions in their companie and  
 not anie drvmme. Nor doth remember that anie person did hoope and hallow  
 when they came neere abowte the *said* *Complainantes* howse [And saith that  
 [a] as they were soe dauncinge the nowe *Complainant* came by them] And  
 saith that shee did not see or meete the *said* *Complainant* as they were <sup>^</sup>soe<sup>1</sup>  
 dauncinge, but as she this *defendant* and others of the then companie were  
 then standinge still hand in [hande<sup>1</sup> [hand at or neere] [at<sup>1</sup> the doore of this  
*defendants* howse the now *Complainant* came amongst them, and would  
 haue thrust this *defendant* from her doore without anie occasion given him  
 by this *defendant*. wherevppon this *defendant* vsed theis wordes to the *said*  
*Complainant* vizt Master Constable I am at my owne doore and here I will  
 stand. but [neith] neither this *defendant* nor anie other by her meanes did then  
 thrust or Iossele [the *said* *Complainant*] and compasse in the *said* *Complainant*  
 and beate or strike vpp anie drvmme abowte or neere him as is supposed.  
 Neither had this *defendant* and the persons then in her companie any drvmme  
 then emongest them at that tyme

To the 9. she saith that neither she this *defendant* nor anie other by her  
<sup>^</sup>abettment or<sup>1</sup> procurement did vppon Assention day in the 5. yere of his  
 Maiesties raigne apparrell anie boyes, or maydes [(<...>y)] I in womans apparrell  
 either before morninge or eveninge prayer that day. But after eveninge prayer  
 that day she this *defendant* did apparell and dresse a little girle that day to goe  
 [and make a shew] with diuerse other little children in the *said* Towne in  
<sup>^</sup>[suche]<sup>1</sup> honest and Civill manner as hath ben heretofore vsed to see, and  
 behold suche May sportes as were then made in the *said* Towne. Att which  
 tyme diuers persons were in the streetes of the *said* Towne to behold the *said*  
 May sportes. but noe persons to her knowledge did absent themselves from  
 divine service for that purpose

...

sheet 6v\*

...

To the 14. Interrogatory she saith [saith] that Iohn Rodway mencioned in

this Interrogatory was before the ffowreth day of May mencioned in this Interrogatory servant in howse to this *defendantes* husband and soe then and sithence for some tyme this *defendantes* <sup>1</sup>said<sup>1</sup> husband did keepe him in howse which *said* Rodway had beenn trayned vp almost from his childehoode to keepe and play vppon a drumme, and was imployed as a drummer in the warres in the tyme of the late Queene Elizabeth <sup>1</sup>& also did goe with his drumme at Musters vsually in the Countrey<sup>1</sup> And that the *said* Rodway when he came to dwell with this *defendantes* *said* husband [he] broughte thither with him his drumme and [carried] when he went away he carryed also away his *said* drumme with him and that betwene the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May and the end of the moneth of Iune <sup>1</sup>menconed in this Interrogatory the *said* Rodway did<sup>1</sup> play and exercise himselfe vppon his *said* drumme aswell in the streetes of wells as in this *defendantes* *said* husbandes howse. but there were not anie other drummers vsed, or hired by this *defendantes* meanes or procurement <sup>1</sup>as is supposed<sup>1</sup> And more then is aforesaid she cannot [depo] certainly say to this Interrogatory. Savinge that at suche tyme as the drumme or drummes were stricken vpp & plaide vppon within the *said* Towne of wells at the *said* May sportes diuerse persons did assemble and comme forth into the streetes to behold the same

...

*Examination of Edmund White, Barber-surgeon* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 8v-9v\* (15 May)

...

To the 3. this *defendant* saieth that vppon the *said* 3. day of May abowtes 8. of the Clocke in the eveninge he this *defendant*, and others 1 of his honest neighbors did procure Robert Mayne, and Iohn Mayne beinge Musitions to play with their Instrumentes before [thes] this *defendant* and his wife, and diuerse others of his neighbors, and their wives then assembled together in Civill and honnest manner and in sporte and merriement to dawnce and passe <sup>1</sup>hande in hande<sup>1</sup> alonge the Streetes in the *said* Towne But did not procure Thomas Wyngood to play with his Taber emongest them, nor doth remember that the *said* Wyngood was then there emongest them Neither did the *said* Complainant at anie tyme that day tell this *defendant* nor anie other in his hearinge that those meetinges were against his Maiesties proclamacion nor doth remember that <sup>1</sup>he did see<sup>1</sup> the *said* Complainant [did] that day offer to apprehend the *said* Iohn and Roberte Mayne, or require anie other to assist him therein. And further saieth that he did not then aide the minsterills, against the *said* Complainant, nor rayld against the *said* Complainant, nor doth <sup>1</sup>certainly<sup>1</sup> know what speeches any other person then vsed to the *said*

11/ menconed: for mencioned; abbreviation mark missing

Complainant touchinge that matter But one Mr Watkyns, and the *said* Complainant had that day some speches together concerninge the *said* mynsterills.

To the 4. he saieth that neither he this *defendant* nor anie other person to his knowledge did vppon the *said* 3. day of May take and rescusse the *said* Robert Mayne owte of the handes, or Custodie of the *said* Complainant, [neither doth this *defendant* knowe] But I [vppon afterwarde] vppon the same day as this *defendant* was told [as] the *said* Complainant caused the *said* Maynes to be imprisoned. But whether the *said* Complainant did fynde them at Cardes in the [ty] tyme of divine service or not this *defendant* doth not knowe. And saieth he this *defendant*, and some others of his *said* neighbo(.. ) (not knoweing the *said* Maynes were imprisoned for anie suche cause as is supposed) did repayre to the then [Mano] Maior of the *said* Citie, and made request for their enlargement and <sup>^</sup>[afterwarde] [therevppon] they were enlarged <sup>^</sup>[but not by this *defendants* meanes] and [afterwarde] the same [day towards night] [the al] day abowte 8. of the clocke at nighte the *said* Iohn and Robert Mayne did play with their instrumentes before this *defendant* and his wife, and others of his nighbors and their wives when they soe daunced, and passed alonge the *said* Streete [had] hand in hand as this *defendant* hath before declared Att which tyme he this *defendant* and [the] others of his *said* neighbors did say that the *said* Maynes should be their Mynsterills to play before them in that honest, and Civill manner as they did: And that at the same tyme he this *defendant* did lend one of the *said* Maynes <sup>^</sup>[beinge a poore and lame man] who carried the Base Vyoll [of] one of this *defendants* garters to tye [and hold vpp] the same whylest he playde vppon that instrument

...

sheets 12-13v\*

...

To the 28. Interrogatory this *defendant* saieth that I in the *said* moneth of May in the *said* 5.<sup>th</sup> yere of his Maiesties raigne he this *defendant* and others the parishioners of the Parish of St Cutbertes in wells did move and request Sir Iohn Rodney Knight then dwellinge in that parishe that he would giue his Consent to the keepinge of a Churche [All] Ale there because one of ther bells was broken, and another of them to be cast, and the Churche <sup>^</sup>[Steeple] in somme decaie to thend that thereby they might gather, and gaine somme monie for the repayinge and amendinge thereof wherevnto the *said* Sir Iohn Rodney aunswered that he could not give anie leave of him selfe. And afterwarde Doctor Heyden the late deane of wells was moved by one Mr Owen



to give leave for a Churche Ale to be kept within the *said* Parishe, the *said* Mr Heyden beinge informed to what end the same was to be kept. And therevpon there was a Churche Ale kepte within the *said* Parishe, and abowte 45. li. in monie therby cleerely gotten for the benefitt of the *said* Churche. And more he Cannot certainly say to this Interrogatory.

To the 29. Interrogatory he saieth that he this *defendant* and others of the *inhabitautes* of the *said* Towne of wells <sup>^</sup>who daunced after the sportes at the tymes aforesaid<sup>1</sup> did emongest themselves voluntarily gather, and giue some monie to giue vnto the mynsterills whoe plaide at their daunceing But neither this *defendant*, nor anie other by his *procurement* did otherwise gett, or begge monie or sett *assesementes* or taxes vppon anie persons in wells aforesaid, or [un] in the *parishe* of St Cutbertes there or gather, or cause to be gathered anie baconn, cheese, Corne, or other rewardes to pay <sup>^</sup>[or give<sup>1</sup>] the same or for thexpences of l the gyantes, ffdlers, and <sup>^</sup>[other<sup>1</sup>] wages for the bearers [of] or laborers in the shewes vsed in the *said* Towne in the *said* moneths of May or Iune in the *said* 5<sup>th</sup> yere of his *Maiesties* raigne as is supposd But suche monie as was gotten by reason of the *said* Church Ale was imploied, and bestowed onely to the benefitt <sup>^</sup>[& to the vse<sup>1</sup>] of the Churche of St Cutbertes for anie thinge this *defendant* knoweth And more then is aforesaid he Cannot certainly depose to this Interrogatory

...  
sheets 15–15v

...  
To the 38. this *defendant* saieth that ... the *said* Churchwardens of the Parishe of St Cutbertes in wells aforesaid whoe appered at the *said* Assises, and were committed abowte the keepinge of the *said* Churche Ale had theire charges allowed them by the consent of the *said* parishe owte of suche monie as was gotten by the *said* Churche Ale but what l was the certenn *Somme* of that which was soe allowed this *defendant* doth not knowe nor cann further certainly say to this Interrogatory

...  
*Examination of Thomas Byson, Miner* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 17–19\* (15 May)

...  
To the 17. Interrogatory this *defendant* saieth that he did vppon [the] or abowtes the xvij<sup>th</sup> day of Iune in the 5 yere of his *Maiesties* raigne ride <sup>^</sup>vppon a horse which this *defendant* thinketh was Robert Atwelles horse<sup>1</sup> in the sportes and shewes then vsed in the Towne of wells <sup>^</sup>[this *defendant* then having<sup>1</sup> [with] a grey beard, and flaxen heyre abowte his heade in the streetes

in wells aforesaid and then had also a brushe in one hand, and a hatte <sup>Λ</sup>in<sup>1</sup> [at] the other and then had alsoe hanginge at his girdle three <sup>Λ</sup>verie old<sup>1</sup> hattes, and a Cappe <sup>Λ</sup>being almost nothing worth<sup>1</sup> which horse this defendant had in the backside of the said Robert Atwell, and the bearde and flaxen hayre this defendant had at the howse of Mr Heyden late deane of wells aforesaid, and had also the said brushe, hattes, and cappe from the said Attwelles howse and had <sup>Λ</sup>then<sup>1</sup> also [had] at the said Atwells howse a[n] <sup>Λ</sup>womans [w]<sup>1</sup> olde pettiecote, bing blacke and also a mans Cote which was blacke <sup>Λ</sup>And that<sup>1</sup> all such thinges <sup>Λ</sup>as<sup>1</sup> this defendant soe had at the said [william] Attwell<sup>1</sup> howse, William Stott one of the now defendantes h<sup>1</sup> there prepared (as this defendant thinketh) for he there deliuered the same to this defendant where he this defendant tooke horse, and did soe ryde therewith from thence by the procurement of the said Stott he then tellinge this defendant that [he was] the same was noe harme nor hur<sup>1</sup> to anie person And saieth that as this defendant soe rode in the streete of Wells aforesaid Mr Edward waddam asked this defendant what was the price of one of his hattes, wherevnto this defendant aunswered halfe a Crowne wherevpon the said Mr wadham tooke <sup>Λ</sup>one<sup>1</sup> the said <sup>Λ</sup>old<sup>1</sup> hattes from this defendant and threw it away. bu<sup>1</sup> this defendant did not as he rode vse theis [w] or the like wordes vizt That this defendant had as good hattes to sell as anie Mr Yarde had but this defendant did at that tyme aske whoe would buy a hatt of a poore man, and vsed noe other speaches then to theeffecte before declared

To the 19. he saieth that vpon the day aforesaid the said Roberte Attwell and <sup>Λ</sup>one<sup>1</sup> other whose name this defendant doth not knowe <sup>Λ</sup>(the one of them there representinge the person of a vsurer and thother of a scrivene<sup>1</sup>) di<sup>1</sup> ride together vpon horse face ro face beinge disguised in their apparrell <sup>Λ</sup>in the streetes of Welles aforesaid<sup>1</sup> and that betwene them there was placed a deske, and a standishe one of them havin<sup>1</sup> then also in his hand a bagge full with Counters or some suche like thinge. But where the said persons did take their horse this defendant doth not knowe, nor whose deske, standis<sup>1</sup> and bagge the same were. Neither did this defendant thinke that anie other persons were appointed and intended to ride at that tyme besides this defendant, vntill this defendant sawe them in the streete before him on horsebacke. And further saieth that he did not heare either of the said persons vse anie wordes that they presented the vsurer and the scrivener, and that they were to lend monie to the hatter, [worcested] worsted maker, Pewterer, and the mercer nor to anie suche effecte. But at that tyme this defendant had a paper in his hande which the person that represented the [s] said scrivener deliuered this

8/ bing: for beinge(?)

9/ such: written over another word

17/ <sup>Λ</sup>one<sup>1</sup>: for one of

27/ vponn: for vpon onc(?)

defendant, and told this defendant it was a bonde he willinge this defendant to offer the sam to the person which represented the vsurer to borrow monie vppon or a Tonne of ledd. and this defendant accordingly offered the same to the saied vsurer whoe said he would not lend this defendant without suerties v li. vppon it, and yet he demaunded to haue for that v li. 8 li. or 9 li. if the price of ledd did arise

...

To the 25 Interrogatory <sup>λ</sup>[this defendant saieth] that he had not the bordes vppon<sup>n</sup> which the pictures were painted nor doth knowe from whome the painter that painted the same had the [same] saied bordes. Neither did this defendant beare anie parte in that shew. but abowte 4 l of the Clocke in the afternoone of the same day this defendant comminge home from the Leade Mynes where he had wrought all the day before did meete at the gate in the saied Towne called Brownes gate [amonge] diuerse persons then assembled <sup>λ</sup>& going<sup>1</sup> together, and emongest them one rydinge vppon a horse [whose] (whome th<sup>(.)</sup> defendant did not then knowe[<sup>1</sup>]) but since knoweth it was one william Gammage) [and] <sup>1</sup>he then<sup>1</sup> carreinge a borde paynted with three pictures and vnder it 9. holes, att which tyme the saied Gamage did trundle a balle towardes th<sup>(.)</sup> saied holes sayenge I hole, and that some of the persons then goeing by <sup>λ</sup>the saied Gamage then aunswered &<sup>1</sup> saide you hol<sup>(.)</sup> not for a Crowne, or for vj d. but whoe by name did soe say this defendant Cannot depose, nor doth remember that he then heard anie wordes spoken to anie suche <sup>λ</sup>other<sup>1</sup> effe<sup>(.)</sup> as is mencioned in this Interrogatory

To the 26. he saieth that at that tyme he also sawe two other persons whome he did not then knowe (but since vnderstandeth by the confession of one of them that his name is Thomas Baler) ridinge vppon two seuerall [persons] horses and that then one of the saied persons had a deske before him wit<sup>(.)</sup> a paper booke and penne and ynckhorne but what theother had this defendant did not then well marke, but sawe <sup>λ</sup>him<sup>1</sup> verie busie abowte the doeing of some thinge. And saieth that he did not heare anie person say at that tyme that holinge was agains<sup>(.)</sup> the kinges proclamacion, nor did heare l anie other wordes vsed to anie suche effecte as is mencioned in this Interrogatory. And more then is aforesaid he Cannot depose therevnto

...

*Interrogatories for Walter Smythe, Painter* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 189\*

...

1 Inprimis did yow about the tenth daie of Maie in the fife yeere of his Maiesties

3/ a: inserted later

12/ the same day: 25 June 1607

40/ Inprimis: 6 minimi for imi in MS

reigne, & how long before that daie paint one boarde with a picture of a sparked Calfe was the same boarde on or about the said tenth daie of Maie) Carried about the streetes of wells in the Countie of Somerset by William Peeters, one other of the *defendants*, who procured yow to painte the same picture of a Calfe on the said boarde, and who and which of the *defendants* 5  
paide yow for paynting thereof, And what was the representation or meaning therof as yow were informed by those that procured yow to painte the same or paid yow for the painting therof.

- 2 Item did yow also about the said tenth daie of Maie, and howe longe before 10  
painte the boarde nowe shewed to yow, and did yow cutt or boare the hoales or scotches in the lower ende of the said boarde, did yow place or faste the same boarde vpon the other boarde (Marked with this marke. +) And now alsoe shewed to yow And which of the *defendants* and howe manie of them 15  
by name Caused yow to painte Cutt and frame the said boarde as aforesaid, Of which of the *defendants* by name had yow these bordes; which and howe manie of the *defendants* by name payd yow for your paines for the painting and framing of the said bordes what was the particular some that every such *defendant* payd yow for that purpose And how much in the whole weare yow 20  
paid for the painting and framing thereof; whoe was meant or intended to be represented or signified by the pictures, painted on the said painted boardes or either of them as yow did knowe or weare informed by those that procured yow to painte and frame the same or paid yow for the dooing therof. 25

...

- 4 Item did yow or anie of the *defendants* and which of them did at anie time 25  
sithence the said five and twentieth daie of Iune, reade, singe, publishe, vtter or repeate the libells in the bill mencioned or either of them, or anie parte of them or either of them the one of the said libelles beginning with theis wordes My loving frindes that love to plaie &c, And the other of the said libelles beginning with theis wordes (vizt) tell me of [the] fleshe; tut noe give me the 30  
fishe[ &c], Which and howe manie of the *defendants* by name have [made] reade, songe, Copied, published or vttered the same libelles or either of them or anie parte of them or either of them, And what parte of them or either of them in your *presence* or hearing; howe often have they or anie of them soe done./ 35

*Examination of Walter Smythe, Painter* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 162-3\* (4 June)

...

To the 1. Interrogatory this *defendant* saieth that in whitson weeke last was 40

twelve monethes <sup>^</sup>the day he cannot certainly remember<sup>1</sup> he this *defendant* being by his trade a paynter did painte a borde with a Picture of a sparked Calfe <sup>^</sup>thereon<sup>1</sup> and that the next day after this *defendant* had so painted the *saied* bord the same was carried about the streetes of Wells in the Countie of Somers et amongst such Pageantes & other shewes as were then carried about the *saied* streetes And that William Peters mencioned in this Interrogatory did then carrie the *saied* Calfe about the *saied* streete, And <sup>^</sup>saieth<sup>1</sup> that Edward Carew being accompanied with certen other younge men who were straungers to this *defendant* came to this *defendant* & procured this *defendant* to painte the *saied* Calfe & that the *saied* Edward Carew paid this *defendant* for the paintinge thereof But neither the *saied* Edw Carew nor anie other Person told <sup>^</sup>or informed<sup>1</sup> this *defendant* what was the representacion or meaninge of the *saied* Calffe so by this *defendant* painted nor what it should signifie

To the 2. Interrogatory this *defendant* saieth that he did also in the *saied* Whitson weeke last was xij monethes after he had so painted the *saied* Calf painte the bord with nyne holes <sup>^</sup>or scotches<sup>1</sup> now shewed to this *defendant* at the tyme of this his Examinacion & also this *defendant* did cutt owt the *saied* l holes or scotches in the lower end of the *saied* borde, and did also fasten & nayle the same borde vppon theother bord now also shewed to this *defendant* And that <sup>^</sup>one<sup>1</sup> Iohn Gilbert & no other person or Persons did cause & directe this *defendant* to painte the same bord in such manner as the same is painted & to cutt & frame the *saied* borde in such manner as this *defendant* then did the same, And that the same bordes (being this *defendantes* owne bordes) the *saied* Iohn Gilbert gave this *defendant* monie for the paintinge thereof & so this *defendant* was to have his bordes redeliuered him againe by the *saied* Iohn Gilbertes promise And this *defendant* saieth that none of the *defendantes* besides the *saied* Iohn Gilbert paid this *defendant* for the paintinge of the *saied* bordes <sup>^</sup>or anie thinge towardes it But<sup>1</sup> [& that] the *saied* Gilbert agreed with this *defendant* to give him ij s. for the painting thereof but after this *defendant* had done he gave this *defendant* iij d. more & so this *defendant* had in the whole for his worke <sup>^</sup>therein<sup>1</sup> ij s. & iij d. & no more [And further<sup>1</sup> [But] this *defendant* <sup>^</sup>saieth that he<sup>1</sup> was not told or informed by anie person before he painted the *saied* bordes or either of yem <sup>^</sup>nor doth yet know<sup>1</sup> who was meant or intended to be represented or signified by the Pictures which this *defendant* painted <sup>^</sup>vppon<sup>1</sup> one of the *saied* bordes but onely the *saied* Gilbert then willed this *defendant* to painte vppon one of the *saied* bordes [...] the Pictures of two men & a woman betwene them with a brush in one <sup>^</sup>of her<sup>1</sup> hands & <sup>^</sup>a<sup>1</sup> hatt in the other

hande, & also the *saied* Gilbert I onely willed this *defendant* to make 9. holes or scotches at the lower [side] end of the same bord But this *defendant* had not anie other direccion given him therein by anie person nor was informed nor did conceive anie thing what the paintinge of the *saied* Pictures should meane otherwise then [<sup>^</sup>that he was told<sup>1</sup>] that <sup>^</sup>he did thinke that<sup>1</sup> the same should be carried about the *saied* City in such sportes <sup>^</sup>& Pageantes<sup>1</sup> as were then made & vsed

To the 3. Interrogatory this *defendant* saieth That ... he this *defendant* <sup>1</sup>havinge<sup>1</sup> [hav did] fastened & nailed the *saied* two bordes together in the same manner as they were carried <sup>^</sup>& shewed<sup>1</sup> in the *saied* streetes [&] did deliver them to the *saied* Iohn Gilbert at his house in Welles...

sheet 163v\*

...

To the 4. Interrogatory this *defendant* saieth that ... at such tyme as the *saied* Gamadge was first imprisoned in <sup>^</sup>wells aforesaid<sup>1</sup> [yewelchester] he heard the *saied* Gamadge <sup>^</sup>there<sup>1</sup> reade [two or three or fowre] <sup>^</sup>divers<sup>1</sup> of the <sup>^</sup>first<sup>1</sup> verses of <sup>^</sup>one of<sup>1</sup> the *saied* Libells begynning thus viz. My lovinge freindes that love to play &c. att *which* tyme the *saied* Gamadge told this *defendant* that he had or would send a Copie thereof vnto the yen Lord Bisshop of Bath & Welles ... And more then is aforesaid he saieth he cannot depose to this Interrogatory Saving that he hath heard some children & boies singe in the streetes of wells aforesaid some of the <sup>^</sup>first<sup>1</sup> verses of the *saied* first mencioned Libell

(signed) Walter Smythe

*Interrogatories for James Lideard, Butcher* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 188

...

(L) Impimis did you on or about the xviiij<sup>th</sup> daye of Iune in the ffifthe yere of his *maiesties* reigne together with one other ride on horsebacke both on one horse through the stretes of Wells in the countye of Somerset, carrying a paire of scales in both or either of your hands, what is the name of the said other person <sup>^</sup>that did so ride<sup>o</sup><sup>1</sup> & did you & the said other person betwene you or otherwise also carrie vpon the said horse one fraile with graines in it & other trashe & *which* of you did then say or aske who will buy any good spices

2/ same: a corrected from d

19/ begynning: 6 minims in MS

31ml (.) : numeral, probably 1, obliterated by stab hole

31/ Impimis: for Imprimis

33/ carrying: 2 minims in MS

or raisons or to such effecte & did you or the said other person & *which* of you then did caste or throwe the said graines or other trashe about the streetes in Wells aforesaid, & did you or the saide other person or *which* of you did then saye theis or the like words in effecte viz that Humfrye Palmer had noe such raisons in his shopp as you then had, And is the said Humfry Palmer a Grocer by his trade howe longe hath he dwelte in Wells aforesaid & howe often hath he bene Constable of Wells aforesaide/

- 2 Item whose horse was it that you did then ride vpon at whose requeste or by whose procurement did you then ride, was it by the request or procuremente of any of the defendtes & of *which* & howe many of them of whome & where had you the scales that you or the said other person then carried in your hand, what were you paid for your paines for rideinge as afore said, *which* of the defendantes by name did paye you what disguised or counterfeite apparell or what Apparell did you or the said other <sup>an</sup> person then weare what was the fashion & manner of the Apparell that you did then weare & of whome & *which* of the defendantes had you the Apparell that you did then weare
- ...

*Examination of James Lideard, Butcher* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 164-4v\* (4 June)

To the 1. Interrogatory this defendant saieth that vpon or about the xvij day of Iune in the ffifte yere of his maiesties raigne he this defendant together with one (*blank*) Gamm so called being <sup>an</sup> Appprentice of Iohn Eddicote a shoemaker in Welles aforesaid did ride [together] both of them vpon one horse in & thorough some of the streetes in welles, they then having betwene a <sup>smale</sup> paire of brasen skales such as mercers <sup>or</sup> Groters vse, & a pownd <sup>waight of</sup> [stone] <sup>leade</sup> & halfe a pownd <sup>waighte</sup> of brasse, And the saied Gamm & this defendant then also carried betwene them vpon the same horse a fraile with graynes in it But neither this defendant nor the saied Gamm did then say or aske who will buy anie good spices or raisons nor anie wordes to yat effecte to this defendantes remembraunce but he this defendant & the saied Gamm did then cast & throwe about the saied graines vpon such People as came next them in the saied streetes, And this defendant saieth that neither he this defendant nor the saied [Humfrie Palmer] Gamm did at yat tyme when they so rode together say that Humfry Palmer had no such

p 290, l.38-p 291, l.1/ who ... raisons : *underlined in MS*

4-5/ that ... had;: *underlined in MS*

11/ defendtes: *for defendantes; abbreviation mark missing*

28/ Groters: *for Grocers*

raisons in his shoppe <sup>^</sup>[nor anie such wordes<sup>1</sup>] And more he saieth not to this Interrogatory Saving that the saied Humfrie Palmer is a mercer or Grocer by his trade & this defendant hath knowne the saied Humfry Palmer dwelling in wells about 14 or 15 yeres, And this defendant thinketh that the saied Palmer was once Constable of yat Place.

To the 2. Interrogatory he saieth that he this defendant comminge into a streete called Southover streete in Wells aforesaied I nere vnto the Pownd aforesaied [saw] <sup>^</sup>[founde<sup>1</sup>] there the saied Gamm vpon the saied horse <sup>^</sup>[backe<sup>1</sup>] & yat at the same tyme this defendant comminge to the saied Gamm he asked this defendant if he would ride with him vpon that horse in the <sup>^</sup>[then shewes<sup>1</sup>] [sport] about the streete [&] to make sporte <sup>^</sup>[the saied Gamm then having the saied skales & fraile with the graynes in it vpon the said horse<sup>1</sup>] and therevnto this defendant consented but this defendant was not requested or procured by anie other Person <sup>^</sup>[or persons<sup>1</sup>] to ride that day neither doth this defendant know whose the same horse was vpon which the saied Gamm & this defendant did so ride together about the saied streetes nor doth knowe where the saied Gamm had the saied skales nor whose the same were neither had this defendant anie thinge paied or given him for riding as aforesaied neither did this defendant <sup>^</sup>[nor the saied Gamm<sup>1</sup>] then weare anie disguised nor counterfeite apparrell but onely his <sup>^</sup>[& their<sup>1</sup>] vsuall wearing clothes, he this defendant then also wearing an old canvas apron about his middle which he did vse to weare at other tymes when he killed beastes to [save &] keepe the blood of the beastes from his other clothes

...

*Interrogatories for William Evans, Schoolmaster* PRO: STAC 8/161/1 sheet 190

...

- 1 Inprimis did not yow about the moneth of Iune in the fifte yeere of his Maiesties reigne cause procure or speake vnto Iohn Attwill one of the proctors of the Consistorie Courte of wells <sup>^</sup>[in the countie of Somerset<sup>1</sup>] [cathedrall (...)] to frame penne or make the oration or latin speeche the Coppie whereof is now shewed to yow; and whether did he penne or invent the same oration or speech or anie parte therof; did yow (or anie by your procurement Correct or amend the same oration or speech or frame or invent the same or anie parte therof

- 2 Item did yow or anie by your procurement on or about the said moneth of

12-13/ 'the ... horse': partly interlined and partly written in left margin  
35/ (or ... procurement: closing parenthesis omitted

39/ on: for in



Iune, move sollicite or deale with the said Attwill to pronounce or vtter the said oration or speeche or anie parte therof openlie in the towne of wells <sup>Λ</sup>[in the bill mencioned] or in the liberties belonging to the Cathedrall Church <sup>Λ</sup>[of wells aforesayde<sup>o</sup>], did yow about that time also provide or Cause to be provided a velvet Coate or other apparell for the said Attwill to weare when he should pronounce or vtter the said oration or speech or anie parte thereof; did yow then helpe or cause the said Attwill to be holpen on with the said velvet Coate or other apparell, what apparell was it; And was there provided for the said Attwill a velvet hatt or square Corner cappe like A Bishoppes hat or Cappe; wheare and before whom was the same oration or speech to be pronounced or vttered.//

...

- 5 Itm did yow about the moneth of Iuly last past or at anie time sithence & when sithence deliver or send anie Copie of the libell in the bill mencioned, that begineth (tell me of fleshe &c to one Edward weekes, sonne of Mr Nicholas weekes of welles aforesaid; How long had yow the said Copie in your keeping; did yow send for it againe by william Peeters one other of the defendantes; did yow at anie time reade or repeat the same or anie parte therof to anie person or persons and to whom by name, or Copie out the said Copie or anie parte therof or shew the same or anie parte therof to anie person or persons and to whom by name, what ar, or is the name or names of him or them that did write or had anie Copie or Copies therof or of anie parte therof or that repeated or songe or read the same or anie parte therof in your hearing or presence.

...

*Examination of William Evans, Schoolmaster* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 168-8v\* (5 June)

...

To the 1. Interrogatory this defendant saith that Iohn Attwell mencioned in this Interrogatory being a person of an humeros & manie tymes <sup>Λ</sup>[of an] idle & vaine disposicion desieros to make himself & his conceited learning knowne both in open merrimentes & private places, he this defendant & also others of good regard within the City of wells did [in the tyme of the sportes or merymentes vsed in the saied City of Wells in] <sup>Λ</sup>[in or about] Iune in the ffifte yere of his maiesties Raigne tell the saied Attwell that he must doe somethinge by way of <sup>Λ</sup>[a Speache] [oration] or otherwise at yat tyme to make known his learninge & to gett Creditt & reputacion thereby to himself or otherwise he

5/ Attwill: corrected from Attwell

6/ pronounce: c written over t or c

13/ Itm: for Item; abbreviation mark missing

15/ (tell me of fleshe &c: closing parenthesis omitted

37/ Speache: S written over an

should much obscure his learned *partes*, or speaches to yat effecte, [w] the which was spoken onelie in iest & merrie sporte & to no other end or purpose respecting onely the [(&)] *humeros* [& idle] inclinacion of the *saied* Atwell [where]vppon <sup>Λ</sup>which speche<sup>1</sup> the *saied* Atwell *saied* that he would presently goe home & drawe an oration in the commendacion of himself & <sup>Λ</sup>of<sup>1</sup> learninge, & so therevppon the *saied* Attwell departed and drewe & made as he told this *defendant* the lattin speache (the Copie whereof is now shewed this *defendant*) the which the *saied* Attwell *perswadinge* himself that he had done absolutelie well therein delivered <sup>Λ</sup>to one mr Ieffries to be sent to<sup>1</sup> this *defendant* to reade <sup>Λ</sup>[& he this *defendant* kept the same to shewe it vnto some of the learned masters of the Cathedrall Church of wells]<sup>1</sup> & so he this *defendant* kept the same<sup>1</sup> But this *defendant* *saieth* that neither he this *defendant* nor anie by this *defendants* procurement did correcte or amende the *saied* speech as is supposed by this *Interrogatory*

To the 2 he *saieth* that ...

sheet 169\*

... it is true that the *saied* Attwell owt of his owne fantasticke & vaine glorious humor would have pronounced at <sup>Λ</sup>or about<sup>1</sup> yat tyme <sup>Λ</sup>aforesaid<sup>1</sup> openly in the streetes at wells [about the *saied*] <sup>Λ</sup>the *saied* lattin speach or supposed oration<sup>1</sup> [such tymes as the shewes & sportes were there made]<sub>Λ</sub> But he this *defendant* after he had the *saied* speech in his custodie kept the same vntill this *defendant* himself delivered the same vnto the late Bisshopp of wells now deceased.

...

sheets 169v-70\*

To the 5. *Interrogatory* this *defendant* *saieth* that about the moneth of Iuly last past he this *defendant* came to the house of Nicholas weekes of wells aforesaid being an Atturrie in ye Courte of Common Pleees [of] <sup>Λ</sup>at<sup>1</sup> westminster at which tyme the *saied* Nicholas weekes did in the presence <sup>Λ</sup>& hearing<sup>1</sup> of Anthonie Harvie gentleman read vnto them certen english verses <sup>Λ</sup>in<sup>1</sup> [&] Rymes, <sup>Λ</sup>written in papir<sup>1</sup> (the begyning whereof was thus as this *defendant* remembreth) Tell me of fleshe, (the same verses or Rymes being as this *defendant* credibly vnderstandeth written with the hand of Edward weekes sonne of the *saied* Nicholas weekes) And *saieth* that after the *saied* Nicholas

10-11/ <sup>1</sup>[& he ... wells]: partly interlined and partly written in left margin  
25-6/ the late Bisshopp ... now deceased: *John Still*, d. 26 February 1607/8

weekes had so read the same to the *saied* mr Harvie & this *defendant* he asked them what they thought thereof & who might be the maker or contriver thereof & so the *saied* mr Harvie this *defendant* & <sup>^</sup>the *saied*<sup>1</sup> Nicholas weekes then communed & debated amongst themselves who might be ymagined to be the doer thereof <sup>^</sup>or whome it might concerne<sup>1</sup> And [so] at yat tyme the *saied* Nicholas weekes or his sonne Edward weekes delivered this *defendant* the same verses or Rymes which the *saied* Nicholas weekes had so read in his *saied* house to the *saied* mr Harvie & this *defendant*, And <sup>^</sup>shortlie<sup>1</sup> afterwarde this *defendant* redelivered <sup>^</sup>or sent<sup>1</sup> the same back l againe either to the *saied* Nicholas weekes or <sup>^</sup>to<sup>1</sup> his *saied* sonne, without making anie copie thereof [nor] <sup>^</sup>or<sup>1</sup> so much as reading <sup>^</sup>or repeating<sup>1</sup> the same [n]or shewing it to anie other Person to reade during the tyme that the same verses or Rymes were so in this *defendants* custodie, And this *defendant* saith that he did not send for the same againe by william Peters one other of the <sup>^</sup>now<sup>1</sup> *defendants* as is supposed And further this *defendant* saith that about 2 or 3 daies after <sup>^</sup>the tyme aforesaid<sup>1</sup> one william Tiddleleigh <sup>^</sup>who teacheth a daughter of this *defendants* to play on the Lute<sup>1</sup> came to this *defendants* house in wells aforesaid & then brought with him thither a copie of the aforesaid verses or Rymes & then did reade the same <sup>^</sup>in this *defendants* hearing<sup>1</sup> vpon the reading whereof he this *defendant* willed the *saied* [Tiddleleigh not to read the same anie more but presently to goe & deliver [...] it to the <sup>^</sup>now Complainant being then one of the<sup>1</sup> Constables of the *saied* City, And therevpon the *saied* Tiddleleigh ymediatly deliuered the[m] <sup>^</sup>same to the *saied* Complainant as this *defendant* thinketh the<sup>1</sup>, which was the first tyme (as this *defendant* taketh it) that the same was discovered to the *saied* Complainant But otherwise then as is aforesaid this *defendant* doth not know what person or persons did write or had anie anie Copie or Copies thereof or of anie part thereof or that repeated sunge or reade the same or anie parte thereof

...

*Interrogatories for Edward Carye, Gentleman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 187\*

...

- 1 Inprimis were yow in the moneths of May and Iune in the vth yeare of his maiesties Raigne a Captaine soe called in welles in the County of Somerset and had dyvers of your Company or traine armed with muskettes Callyvers & other weapons and with what weapons, howe many Sabath daies or other festyvall daies in the said moneths did yow and your company shoote of and

16-17/ <sup>1</sup>who teacheth ... the Lute<sup>1</sup>: partly interlined and partly written in left margin  
27/ anie anie: *ditto*graphy

discharge the said muskettes or Callyvers and did *yow* or *your* Company or some of them by *your* meanes or encouragement abuse or in any sort disgrace the complainant beinge then one of the Constables of Welles aforesaid and disquiett the watch in welles aforesaid and did *yow* in wordes or otherwise abuse or disgrace the complainant bycause hee bad or required *yow* to leaue 5  
of *your* disorders./

- 2 Item did *yow* or any other of the *defendants* and which of them did by *your* meanes or procurement or by whose meanes or procurement also vppon or aboute Sunday the x<sup>th</sup> of may in the v<sup>th</sup> yeare of his maiesties Raigne cary 10  
the picture of a <sup>λ</sup>[sparked] [painted] calfe in and aboute the streetes of welles aforesaid and were *yow* then and dyvers other of the *defendants* and which of them armed with muskettes Callyvars drummes swordes daggers or other weapons and with what [wh] weapons were *yow* or they or any of them soe 15  
armed or weaponed, what Company was there then <sup>λ</sup>[so armed and how manye], did *yow* or any other then by *your* meanes or procurement shoote at the said picture whome meant *yow* or whoe or what was said or entended to be meant represented or signified by that painted Calfe, whose invention was yt, and to what purpose whoe gaue the painter direction for doinge thereof 20  
whoe paid for the same, did *yow* pay for or towardes the paintinge or doinge thereof, what did *yow* soe pay./

- 3 Item on the xvijth day of the said moneth of may when the Complainant was about nyne of the Clocke at night ready to charge the watche in welles aforesaid, did *yow* or any by *your* encoragement or procurement <sup>λ</sup>and how 25  
many were there of them<sup>1</sup> makinge a great noyse then and there com neere vnto the Complainant and sounded trumpettes and hallowed and showed, was the noyse then made so greate that the complainant was thereby soe disturbed soe that hee could not quietly charge the said watch, did the Complainant then and there require *yow* or all or any there in *your* company 30  
[to departe] to departe to *your* or their home or dwellings and forbear to make any such noyse, did hee then tell *yow* that hee was about the chardginge of his maiesties watch, did *yow* or any other then in *your* companye by *your* procurement, and whoe by name did [the] then and there notwithstandinge the said requyrie made by the complainant continew trumpetinge whoopinge 35  
and hallowinge./

...

*Examination of Edward Carye, Gentleman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 172 (7 June)

...

To the 1: Interrogatory this defendant saith that [he] neither he this defendant

nor anie person in this *defendants* companie to his knowledg nor by this *defendants* meanes or encouragement did abuse or in anie sort disgrace the *said* Complainant being then one of the Constables of wells & disquiett the watch in wells as is supposed, But in the moneth of <sup>^</sup>May<sup>^</sup> [Iune] in the 5<sup>th</sup> yere of his *maiesties* raigne <sup>^</sup>& as he taketh it about the 17 day of the *said* monethe<sup>^</sup> he this *defendant* going homewardes towardes his masters house & having sundry other Persons in his companie did then passe along the streete by the Place where the *said* Complainant & some of the Towne watche then were, without offering anie disturbance either to the *said* Complainant or anie of the *said* watche <sup>^</sup>but two of this *defendants* *said* companie did then sownd their Trumpettes as they so went<sup>^</sup> at which tyme the *said* Complainant willed this *defendant* & his companie to returne backe, but he this *defendant* then told the *said* Complainant that he was going home to his *said* masters house to bed & <sup>^</sup>meant to<sup>^</sup> [would] goe <sup>^</sup>forwardes<sup>^</sup> thither or vsed wordes to such effect & then also this *defendant* willed his then companie to departe each man to his lodgeing, And this was all the disturbance <sup>^</sup>abuse or disgrace<sup>^</sup> that he this *defendant* or anie other of his companie to his knowledg yen offered to the *said* Complainant...

sheets 172v-3\*

To the 2. Interrogatory this *defendant* saith that he was vpon a Sondag after dynner vppo(.) or about the x<sup>th</sup> day of May last pas(.) assembled with divers Persons in the streates of wells who then in sporte & merrymment had drvms <sup>^</sup>& phifes<sup>^</sup> muskettes & Calivers swordes & daggers, Auntie(...) & Trumpettes, which *said* persons mak(...) a shew [&] marched & trayned vppe & downe <sup>^</sup>in the Streetes of wells<sup>^</sup> in good fasshion onely to [marke] make sporte & delight themsel(...) & others the beholders thereof, withou(.) willingly offeringe anie offence to anie Person, att which tyme some of the *said* persons so assembled did shoote of their muskettes & Callivers...

To the 3. he saith that it was as he taketh it about the 17 day of the *said* moneth of may that he this *defendant* & sundry other person(.) then in his companie did so passe in the night tyme aboutes <sup>^</sup>8 or<sup>^</sup> 9 of the Clocke by <sup>^</sup>or nere<sup>^</sup> [th] the *said* Complainant as he was with some of the watch <sup>^</sup>at the high Crosse<sup>^</sup> in the streete in wells aforesaid, [at w] & that two of this *defendants* then companie did sownd their Trumpettes & that he this *defendant* did will them to sownd as they [so] passed towardes the *said* Crosse but did not procure anie other noise to be l made nor had anie purpose to have disturbed the *said* Complainant & the watche with him Nor did thinke that the *said* Complainant was at yat tyme at the *said* Crosse before this *defendant* sawe <sup>^</sup>hym<sup>^</sup> comm forth & require this *defendant* & his company

to returne backe & to leave of sowndinge the *said* Trumpettes, And saieth that as he remembreth the [s] persons who sownded the *said* Trumpettes did vppon the *said* *Complainantes* so comminge <sup>Λ</sup>to them<sup>1</sup> leave of <sup>Λ</sup>their sowndinge<sup>1</sup> But the *said* *Complainant* did not then tell this *defendant* nor anie other in his hearinge that he was about the charginge of his *Maiesties* 5  
 watche neither doth this *defendant* remember that anie Person after the *said* *Complainant* had requiered them as is *aforesaid* did whoope & hallow as is supposed & more then is *aforesaid* he cannot certainly say to this *Interrogatory* saving that one of the *said* Trumpeters name was Henry (*blank*) & the 10  
 other Anthonie (*blank*) both of them <sup>Λ</sup>being<sup>1</sup> Reteyners vnto mr Hughes *esquier* a Iustice of Peace of the Countie of Somerset.

...

*Interrogatories for Thomas Petters, Journeyman Shoemaker*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 192

...

- 1 Imprimis whether did you or any other by your meanes or procurment vppon the last day of Aprill[.] in the ffift yeare of our Kinges Raigne in the night time strike vp a drum in the openn streete of Welles in the countie of Somerset yf yea whoe aduised yt to be donne and What time of the night was it and whoe and howe [may] many was then in your company and what did the company then so assembled and what had they or any of them, did you not 25  
<sup>o</sup>continew<sup>o</sup> sounding your drumm from about fower of the Clocke in the morning the first day of May in the year abouesaid for the most parte of that day <sup>o</sup>& in time of [define] <sup>1</sup>devine<sup>1</sup> services that day<sup>o</sup>
- 2 Item did not you one the third of May in the yeare *aforesaid* being a Saboth day beginne to sound your dromm in the streetes of Welles *aforesaid* about 4 or 5 of the Clocke in the morning and continued sounding the same vntell 30  
 William Smith a verderer or Tithingman in Welles *aforesaid* Willed you to geiue over beten your drumm did you ther vppon leaue of or did not the complaynat come after wardes and chardge you in his *Maiesties* name and by vertue of his highnes proclamacion to surcease for that day and departe the streetes and reaire to the Church wherby the multitude then assembled 35  
 might be dissolved did not you there vppon departe in to your Masters howse and there not withstanding the commaundment of the complaynant stricke vp your drumm yf yea whoe advised procured counselled encoraged or commaunded you there vnto speake the truth to every parte hereof

29/ your: *t* inserted

33/ complaynat: *for* complaynant; *abbreviation mark missing*

35/ multitude: *second t written over d*

- 3 Item did not you allsoe afterwarde vppon the same third day of May in Welles aforesaid sound a drume and there by caused a great multitud of people to assemble to gether about the May pole and to publique dauncing in the streetes did not your selfe drum amongst them and when the complaynat would haue apprehended the minstrilles or one of them, and them or one of them comytted to safe Custodie [according to the law] and required the assistance of the standers by in his Maiesties name did you ther vppon assist the said complaynant did you not rather with others keepe the Complaynant from the said minstrilles or otherwise rescue the said minstrelles [or one of them] from him after he had laid handes <sup>Λ</sup>on<sup>o</sup> one <sup>Λ</sup>of them<sup>o</sup> [him] and ther vppon made a great whoope or shoute yf yea who were they or any of them that so ke[e]pte away the minstrilles from the complaynant or that said they should not goe with him speack the truth to euery parte hereof
- 4 Item did not you and one other in and vppon the thirde day of May aforesaid at Welles a forsaid compasse about or besett the complaynant as he stood talking with others in the high street in Welles aforesaid each of you with a greate drume and did you not stricke vp your drummes about the complaynant as yf you would haue affrited or bayted him, and retire from him and after come about him a gaine beating your drummes yf yea who aduised procured or commanded yow there vnto who was the other that so drummed besides your selfe set downe your true knowledge [the] herein./
- ...
- 6 Item whether were you in the monthes of May and Iune in the yeare aforesaid a drummer in Welles aforesaid and howe many drommes and Taborers and fidders and trumpoters were there then[e] besides your self and whie <sup>Λ</sup>weare<sup>o</sup> [where] they or you then there and howe many Saboth daies did you beate your drum vp and doune the streetes in the said monthes and what was the occasion thereof and whether at any time the complaynant required you to leaue druming did you the more doe it yea or noe and who hired you so to drum and whose seruent were you during that time
- ...

*Examination of Thomas Petters, Journeyman Shoemaker*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheets 175-5v\* (7 June)

...

To the 1. Interrogatory he saith that neither this defendant nor anie other by his Procurement did in the night tyme of the day mencioned in this

4/ complaynat: for complaynant; abbreviation mark missing

7/ assistance: i written over e

Interrogatory strike vp a drvm in the open streetes of ye <sup>1</sup>City Welles in ye  
 Countie of Somerset <sup>1</sup>But<sup>1</sup> vppon May eave in the ffifte yere of his Maiesties  
 raigne early in the morninge & a little after day lighte he this defendant &  
 diuers others of the Towne of Wells did procure a boy of Mawrice ffattes  
 being a drummer to comm into the saied streetes & there to strike vpp his  
 drum he this defendant & divers others of the saied Towne <sup>1</sup>menn wemen &  
 children to the number of Twenty persons & vpwardes<sup>1</sup> then going a Mayeng  
 in sporte & merrymment to fetch in May & to sett vpp the May Poole [at yat  
 tyme] that morninge in the high streete of the saied City <sup>1</sup>& for no other  
 purpose<sup>1</sup>. And saith that he this defendant & others did so contynue together  
<sup>1</sup>without doing anie thing to offend anie person at yat tyme to this defendantes  
 knowledg<sup>1</sup> with the saied drvm vntill aboutes 8 of the Clocke yat morninge  
<sup>1</sup>But<sup>1</sup> did not continue sownding the drvm in the tyme of <sup>1</sup>devine<sup>1</sup> Service  
 or Sermons that day as is supposed by this Interrogatory

To the 2 Interrogatory this defendant saith that he this defendant did on the  
 3 day of May in the morning about 5 of the Clocke being a Saboth day strike  
 & sownd a drvm in the streete in wells aforesaid with an intende to goe  
<sup>1</sup>with others in m[e]eriment<sup>1</sup> then also to fetch in may in such sort as had  
 ben vsed <sup>1</sup>to be done<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>in former yeares in the saied City amongst the  
 younger sort of People, And saith that at yat tyme he this defendant not having  
 sownded the saied drvm aboue an houre as he taketh it one william Smith  
 came to this defendant, (he this defendant not then knowing the saied Smith  
 to be a verderer or tithingman mann) & willed this defendant to leave of  
 sowndinge the saied drvm, but he this defendant did not then leave of, but  
 presently l afterwarde the now Complainant came to this defendant whilest  
 he was so sownding the saied drvm & then the saied Complainant willed  
 this defendant in his maiesties name to leave of plaienge on the saied drvm  
 & to departe the streete <sup>1</sup>& the saied Complainant then also wisshed the  
 companie then assembled to depart<sup>1</sup> & ymediatly vppon the saied  
 Complainantes saied speches he this defendant did leave of & carried away  
 his drvm into this defendantes then masters house being a shoemaker But  
 this defendant did not afterwarde strike vpp the saied drvm in his saied  
 masters house as is supposed Nor was advized procured councelled encouraged  
 or commanded by anie Person so to doe But after this defendant was in the

p 299, l.39-p 300, l.1/ the day ... Interrogatory: 30 April 1607

6-7/ <sup>1</sup>menn ... vpwardes<sup>1</sup>: partly interlined and partly written in left margin

11-12/ <sup>1</sup>without ... knowledg<sup>1</sup>: partly interlined and partly written in left margin

24/ tithingman mann): *distigraphy*

30/ ymediatly: d corrected, perhaps from lt

33/ his: h written over c



*saied* house a maiedservant of the *saied* house did with her hand or  $\wedge$  with a sticke strike & tapp the *saied* drvm to a little childe which she carried to please &  $\wedge$  keepe<sup>1</sup> the child from Crienge & no otherwis(.)

To the 3. Interrogatory he saieth that vppon the *saied* third day of May about 5  
8. of the clocke in the eveninge divers menn & their wives & others of good  
sorte in the *saied* City did to delight themselves [dawnce] procure minstrelle(.)  
to play before  $\wedge$  them<sup>1</sup> & did dawnce  $\wedge$  or goe<sup>1</sup> in a rownde & one after another  
in the streetes of wells aforesaid Att which tyme one (but who it was this  
 $\wedge$  defendant<sup>1</sup> doth not now remember) willed this defendant to take his drvm 10  
& goe meete them & therevpon he this defendant did take the *saied* drvm  
& went towardes that company & so went alonge with them with his *saied*  
drvm but did not daunce amongst them neither did this defendant at that  
tyme cause a multitude of People to assemble about the *saied* Maypole...

15

sheet 176

...

To the 4 Interrogatory he saieth that in ye evening of the *saied* 3 day of May  
aboutes 8 or 9 of the clocke he this defendant & one other drvmmer going 20  
together vp & downe in the <sup>1</sup>high<sup>1</sup> streere of wells plaieng vppon their drvms  
did so passe by the *saied* Complainant  $\wedge$  they then going into ye pallace of  
wells there to strike vp their drvms by the River side to heare which of them  
had the best sownd<sup>1</sup> this defendant not then takinge anie heed of the *saied*  
Complainant before he came nere him ... And further saieth that the *saied*  
other drvmmer was a boy of one (blank) ffabians a vyntener as this defendant 25  
remembreth  $\wedge$  the name of<sup>1</sup> which boy this defendant doth not know

sheets 176v-7

...

To the 6. Interrogatory he saieth that he did vse to play on the drvm in the 30  
monethes of may & lune in the *saied* ffifte yere of his maiesties Raigne in the  
streete of wells & sometymes abroad in the feild(.). to fetch home May But  
did not so play vppon anie more Saboth daies then onely two  $\wedge$  or three<sup>1</sup> &  
neither of [them] <sup>1</sup>those daies<sup>1</sup> in the tyme of devine service, And saieth that  
at sometymes during the sportes & merrimentes [vsed] <sup>1</sup>made<sup>1</sup> that yeare in 35  
the *saied* towne, there were at sometymes three drvms together & that at

9/ this: corrected from he

20/ <sup>1</sup>high<sup>1</sup> streete: corrected from streetes

21-3/  $\wedge$  they then ... best sownd<sup>1</sup>: partly interlined and partly written in left margin

sometymes there were also the(.) in the *saied* Towne Minstrells & some Trumpett(.) who came thither to be vsed in those sportes & merrimentes & for no other intent to this *defendants* knowledge And further this *defendant* saith that he did not when the *saied* Complainant required to leave druming doe it the more nor doth remember that the *saied* Complainant required this *defendant* to lea(.) his drvm<sup>1</sup> <sup>5</sup> *anie* more then once<sup>1</sup> [but] onely <sup>1</sup> *which* was<sup>1</sup> vppon the *saied* 3 day <sup>1</sup> *of May*<sup>1</sup> in the morninge as is *aforesaid* And more then is *aforesaid* he cannot certainly say to this *Interrogatory* saving that at ye tyme *aforesaid* he this *defendant* was not hired to drvm<sup>1</sup> but did so plaie <sup>1</sup> *on the drvm*<sup>1</sup> & keepe companie <sup>1</sup> *(to make sporte)* of his owne minde & forwardnes being a *servaunt* to one (*blank*) Hunte a shoemaker in the *saied* City

...

*Interrogatories for Henry Foster, Tanner* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 186 (3 June)

...

- 1 Imprimis did not *yow* about the xvij<sup>th</sup> day of Iune in the v<sup>th</sup> yeare of his *maiesties* Raigne at Welles in the County of Somerset furnish with horse mare or geldinge and with any apparraile or other furniture Thomas Bison of Welles *aforesaid*, Mathewe Lancaster, Roberte Atwell, Iohn Smyth, and Iames Lydeard, some of the *defendants* or some or one of them yf yea <sup>1</sup> *with*<sup>1</sup> what apparraile or other furniture, and did they or any of them and *which* of them did there ride then in the streetes in welles *aforesaid* disguised apparrayled and furnished, and in what manner did they or any of them then ride in the said streetes and how were they furnished or apparrayled and by whome: and did *yow* procure advise <sup>1</sup> *or*<sup>1</sup> abett [and] <sup>1</sup> *or*<sup>1</sup> Countenance the said *defendants* or some or one of them in that action, speake the truth herein and to every parte vppon your oathe./

...

*Examination of Henry Foster, Tanner* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 179\* (7 June)

...

- To the 1. *Interrogatory* this *defendant* saith that he did not about the xvij<sup>th</sup> day of Iune in the ffifte yeare of his *Maiesties* raigne furnish with horse mare <sup>1</sup> *or*<sup>1</sup> geldinge nor with *anie* Apparrell or other furniture Thomas Byson Mathew Lancaster Robert Atwell Iohn Smithe & Iames Lydeard nor *anie* of them as is supposed But vppon or about the same day this *defendant* havinge an old blinde <sup>1</sup> *poore nagge*<sup>1</sup> [horse] going in the Common of welles <sup>1</sup> *at the Townes*

end<sup>1</sup> some of the *said* Persons <sup>^</sup>without this *defendants* privitie<sup>1</sup> [as this defendant taketh it], did fetch <sup>^</sup>for cause to be fott<sup>1</sup> the *said* [horse] 'poore<sup>1</sup> nagge owt of the *said* Common to ride in the *sportes* & [mereymentes] shewes that day made in the *said* Towne, the *which* nagg had a little before ben also vsed in other *sportes* & shewes there...

5

...

*Interrogatories for Henry Downton of Ilminster, Gentleman*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 156

10

...

- 1 Inprimis doe you knowe beleue or haue herd say in or abovt the monnth of Iune in the fift year of his *Maiesties* Raig(. .) William Eavns one of the defendance or some other by his meanes *procurment* did borrowe or speeche to borrowe of Mr Beniamen Heydone then deane of Welles one velvet Coate square Cape or paire of Satten hose or any of theme or any other apparell 'or furnitue' for one Iohn Atwell *alias* Tanner whoe was to represent some great personag(. .) and to deliver a spich in [do] latting in the market place in Welles afforsaid whome was the said Atwell to represent as you haue heard or beleuee and [h] whoe contrived the said spich or gaue the plot or directions for it did not the said Mr [Ewe] Evans read or shewe the same or some *parte* thereof at[ (. .)] any time to the said Mr Beniamen Heydone or to any other persone whoe was ment or intended by the said spech was the Bushop of Bath and Welles that last died ment or intended by the said speech to your knowleg speek the [h] whole truth heare in and to euery *parte* heare of
- 2 Item doe you knowe beleue or haue heard say that in and about the month of Iuly in the fift yeare of his *Maiesties* Raigne Thomasine White one of the defendance or some other by here *procurement* in here company brought in to the house of Mr Beniamen Heydone thene deane of Welles one rithme menconed mencioned in the bill or some *parte* thereof beginning with these wordes viz my louing frindes &c and the burthen therof that the holling game is best and is this nowe 'showd' [shew] shoud to you the same or the like as you doe[ (. .)] beleue were not you seruant then vnto the said *Master* deane and called out of your chamber to read the same and did you not read the same or som *parte* thereof in the *presence* and hearing of *Mistris* Heydon *Mistris* Willice Alce Croker <sup>^</sup>ye said<sup>1</sup> Thomasine White and others did not

13/ Eavns: *for* Evans

14/ defendance: *for* defendants

14/ meanes: *for* meanes or(?)

17/ furnitue: *for* furniture(?)

23-4/ the Bushop ... last died: *John Still, d. 26 February 1607/8*

29/ defendance: *for* defendants

31/ menconed mencioned: *distography*

33/ shoud: *written in left margin*

37/ Alce: *for* Alice

the said Thomasine White then and there say that it was ment or intended to vex or [disgra] disgrace the Complaynant Iohn Hole or speech to that effect and that it was not a quarter of that should be done or wordes to that effect and bestowed the same libell or rythme vppon the said Alce Cro[c]ker whoe was then shourtly to departe the service of the said Mr Heydon and make here repaire to Winchester whence she came and where shee was borne did not the said Alice deliver the said libell to one Richard Bo<sup>l</sup>w<sup>l</sup>rne and was not the said Thomasine very angry with here speecke the whole truth herin and to euery parte hereof

...

*Examination of Henry Downton of Ilminster, Gentleman*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheets 154-4v\* (20 June)

...

To the 1: Interrogatory this deponent saieth That °[the said] william Evans in the Interrogatory mencioned (as he verelie thinketh) did borrowe of [the said] <sup>l</sup>mr Beniamyn Heydon then deane of wells in the said Interrogatory alsoe named and aboute the same tyme in the said Interrogatory specefyed one velvet Coate and one paire of Sattyn hose, but whether he did borrowe the said square Capp in the said Interrogatory named he knoweth not neither dothe he knowe what person the said Iohn Attwell (for whome the said apparrell was borrowed) was to represente or what speache the said [Tan] Attwell was to make in the markett place of wells aforesaid neither doth he knowe whether the said mr Evans did att any tyme shewe the same speache to the said Beniamyn heydon then deane of wells aforesaide but he hath heard [that there] that there was a speache to be made by the said Attwell but by whome the same speach was contrived or whoe gave the plott or direction for ytt this [Examine] <sup>l</sup>Deponent knoweth not neyther doth he thinke that he was to represente the late Lord Buishopp of Bathe and wells, And more to this Interrogatory he cannott depose °

To the Second Interrogatory this °deponent saith that aboute <sup>l</sup>Iulie in the ffyfte yere of his maiesties Raigne<sup>l</sup> [the tyme] in the Interrogatory mencioned there was a Songe or certeyne verses in wrytinge broughte to the howse of the said mr Beniamyn Heydon then deane of wells beginninge with those wordes in [the] this Interrogatory specefyed as namelye my lovinge freindes &c. and the burthen thereof, the hollinge game is beste which Songe or verses were shewed to this deponent att the tyme of this his Examinacion but by whome the same was broughte thither he cannott certeinly depose <sup>l</sup>nor whether the [same]

paper writing now shewed this deponent is the same *which* was so brougte And<sup>1</sup> He alsoe saith that he was then servante or Clarke to the said *Master* deane | but denyeth that he was called oute to reade the same [but yett confesseth] <sup>1</sup> writing But saith<sup>1</sup> that as he <sup>^</sup> this deponent then<sup>1</sup> came oute of his Studye he <sup>1</sup> [the(.)] <sup>1</sup> [sawe] sawe *mistris* Heydon *Mistris* willis Alice Crocker and Thomasyne white readinge of the said Songe or verses some *parte* whereof this deponent did then alsoe reade but he vtterly denyeth that he did then & there or att any other tyme heare the said Thomasyne white saye that ytt was meante or intended to vexe or disgrace the <sup>1</sup> now<sup>1</sup> *Complainante* Iohn Hole or any other speache to that effecte but he thinketh that the said Songe or verses were lefte with the said Alice Crocker whoe aboute some twoe or three monethes after departed to winchester whence shee came and where she was borne but whether the said Alice deliuered ytt to one Richard Bourne or whether the saide Thomasyne white were angry with her for the same <sup>^</sup> or not<sup>1</sup> he knoweth not, And more to this *Interrogatory* he cannott depose<sup>o</sup>

...

*Interrogatories for Thomas Haggatt of Walbrook, London, Skinner*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 185

...

- 1 Inprimis haue you at any time heard Edmond White Thomasine his wife Iohn Hiscox theire seruant Henry ffoster or any other of the *defendants* and *which* of them and how (.) any of them by name at any time he<sup>1</sup> a<sup>1</sup> refofor and [ho] when and howe often singe say read repeate or vtter [the] the *libelles* in the bill mencioned or either of them or any *parte* or parcell (.) of them or either of them who were present then (.) did they or any of them and *which* and how many of them by name did write or deliuer or cause to be written deliuered lent or sc (.) attered any copie or Copies of the said *libeles* or either <sup>^</sup> of them<sup>1</sup> or any *parte* of them or eithere of theme for and to whome by name weare the sayed <sup>1</sup> libels or either of them or anie *parte* of them or either of them<sup>1</sup> written or deliuered or cause to be written or deliuered lent or scattered
- ...

*Examination of Thomas Haggatt of Walbrook, London, Skinner*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 183\* (21 June)

...

To the 1. *Interrogatory* this *defendant* saith that about 3 or 4 daies before

23/ *defendants* corrected from *defendance*

28/ deliuer: 2 *minims* in MS

30/ eithere: r *written over another letter*(?)

32/ cause: *for* caused

Michaelmas last <sup>Λ</sup>[past] he this *defendant* comminge into the shoppe of Edmund white in Welles in the Countie of Somerset did there <sup>Λ</sup>[finde] <sup>1</sup>[heare] one Iohn Hithecockes *servant* to the *saied* Edmund white reading the songe <sup>Λ</sup>[or Ryme] in verses now shewed this *defendant* beginning thus viz. My loving ffrendes that love to plaie &c. <sup>Λ</sup>[which songe <sup>Λ</sup>[or Ryme] was then vsuallie sunge as a songe amvngst ye children in wells aforesaid] But did not at anie tyme heare <sup>Λ</sup>[the *saied*] Edmund white <sup>Λ</sup>[himselfe] or Thomasine his wiffe or Henry ffoster or anie other of ye *defendants* at anie tyme singe say reade repeate or vtter the Libells <sup>Λ</sup>[or writings] in the Bill mentioned or either of yem or anie *parte* thereof And saieth that after this *defendant* had so heard the *saied* hitchcockes so reade the *saied* songe or Rymes he this *defendant* requested the *saied* Hitchcockes to deliuer the same to this *defendant* & therevppon he deliuered the same to this *defendant*...

...

## 1608-9

*Interrogatories for John Rodway, Barber* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 114

...

- 2 Item did [not] yow sound a great drum vppon the x<sup>th</sup> of may aforesaid beinge Sunday in Company of dyvers persons that went about the said Towne with muskettes Callyvers and other warlike furniture, one of them carryinge a bord in manner of a shield or targett whereon was painted a sparked Calfe [and what] whose drum was yt & whoe provided yt for yow, and what or whoe was meant or entended by that calfe soe painted & borne about.
- 3 Item did [not] yow alsoe on the 14 of may aforesaid beinge ascention day the 17 of the same beinge Sunday and 24 of the same moneth beinge whitson day sound your drum & gather great multitudes of people together to see and performe dyvers shewes & idle disportes openly acted & performed in and about the streetes of the said [dayes] Towne on the said dayes.
- 5 Item did [not] yow goe vp and downe the streetes of welles aforesaid soundinge a drumm to call people together on the 18 of lune aforesaid and did yow [not] sound your drumm before or in Company of those that acted <sup>Λ</sup>[or represented] dyvers men of the said Towne on horsbacke on the said 18<sup>th</sup> of lune by their seuerall trades or misteries, whoe hired procured Comaunded or appointed yow soe to doe

3/ reading: corrected from reade

5-6/ <sup>Λ</sup>[which songe ... wells aforesaid]: partly interlined and partly written in left margin

- 6 Item dyd [not] *yow* goe vp and downe the streetes of welles aforesaid soundinge a drum<sup>m</sup> to call people togeather on the 25 of Iune aforesaid at what tyme dyvers persons of the said Towne were represented and carryed about in pictures in view of <sup>Λ</sup>° mutche<sup>o</sup> [many hundredes of] people, and did *yow* [not] accompany those persons at that tyme, and whoe hired procured comaunded 5 or appointed *yow* soe to doe./

...

*Examination of John Rodway, Barber* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 126\* (15 October)

10

...

- 2 To the 2<sup>d</sup> Interrogatorie this deffendant sayeth that he did sound a drum on or about ye tyme in this Interrogarie mencioned <sup>Λ</sup> being on sunday after evening payer<sup>1</sup> in ye company of divers persons that had calivers & musketts & other warlik furniture and that there was caried a bord in maner of a shielde 15 paynted with a sparked calfe and this deffendant sayeth that ye drume was this deffendants owne drume but what was ment by the[r] sayd calfe so paynted or borne a bout this deffendant knoweth not
- 3 To the 3<sup>d</sup> Interrogatorie this [deponent] deffendant sayeth that he this 20 deffendant did divers tymes sound his drume [amon(.)] when divers people & companies were [by] <sup>1</sup> present<sup>1</sup> when as they were feching in bowes & may & at such like pastime but vppon what dayes or at what tymes it was <sup>Λ</sup> this<sup>1</sup> & [deponent] <sup>Λ</sup> deffendant<sup>1</sup> can <sup>Λ</sup> not<sup>1</sup> iustly call to his remembrance 25
- 4 To the 4<sup>th</sup> Interrogatorie this [deponent] <sup>1</sup> deffendant<sup>1</sup> sayeth [that he doth not & remember what tyme did sound the sayd dr that he] <sup>Λ</sup> that he this [deponent] deffendant<sup>1</sup> did divers <sup>Λ</sup> tymes<sup>1</sup> sound his sayd drume amongst [a] <sup>1</sup> divers [people]<sup>1</sup> companys of ye people in ye sayd towne but vppon what dayes or tymes it was that he so sounded his sayd drume this deffendent cannott 30 remember
- 5 To the 5<sup>th</sup> Interrogatorie this [deponent] <sup>1</sup> deffendant<sup>1</sup> sayeth that he did [not] sound his sayd drume before a companie <sup>Λ</sup> on horsback<sup>1</sup> of those that acted and presented divers men of ye sayd towne [on horsback] by there severall 35 misteries and trades [and] <sup>1</sup> but<sup>1</sup> this deffendant sayeth that he was not hyred so to doe by any but that he this deffendant did it vppon his owne accion and will.

13/ ye tyme in this Interrogarie mencioned:  
10 May 1607; Interrogarie for Interrogatorie  
14/ payer: for prayer

14/ in: corrected from on  
15/ caried: ie. writen over other letters

- 6 To the 6<sup>th</sup> Interrogatorie this deffendant sayeth that he did goe about the towne of wells divers tymes as [before] <sup>1</sup>to<sup>1</sup> the former Interrogatorie he hath answered & sayth that he did goe about ye towne with his sayd drume when as some persons in ye sayd towne were represented and caryed about in pictures but this deffendent doeth not remember the day or tyme [when he] when the sayd persons were so represented as afforsayd and also this deffendent sayeth that he was not procured or hired so to doe by any man but it was done of his own accion & will

*Joint Interrogatories for Robert Atwell, Chandler, and William Atwell, Tanner* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 113\* (15 October)

...

- 1 Inprimis did yow on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of Iune 1607 together with one other ride disguised face to face vppon one horse through the streetes of welles in the County of Somerset your selfe havinge before yow a little deske & standish with some other thinges representinge a notary or scrivener, whoe advised, abetted, or procured yow soe to doe, whoe furnished yow with the horse & other thinges before mencioned and whome did yow represent or entend to represent or meant that the beholders should vnderstand therby and by the other that rode with yow havinge money bagges filled with Counters or other thinges representinge an vsurer, speake the whole truth herein./
- [ Robert attwell is to be examined to All the Interrogatories]
- [ william Attwill is to be examined onlie to the 2 8 and 9 Interrogatories]

...

*Examination of Robert Atwell, Chandler, and William Atwell, Tanner* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 124\* (16 October)

...

- 1 To the 1 Interrogatorie this [deponent] <sup>1</sup>deffendant<sup>1</sup> sayeth that [that] about ye 18<sup>th</sup> day of Iune 1607 <sup>1</sup>he<sup>1</sup> this deffendant did rid [about ye towne] <sup>1</sup>through ye Citie<sup>1</sup> of wells aforesayd disguised together with on other riding face to face vppon ye same horse and that this deffendant caried a deske before him this deffendant [and the] representing a scrivener or notarie and the other that wer with this deffendant had mony bagges [before him] in his handes filled with tyle stones representing an vsurer or monyed man but this deffendant was not procured to doe this by any man but that it was his owne voluntarie accord and this deffendant sayeth that the horse he did ride vppon was brought vnto him this <sup>1</sup>deffendant<sup>1</sup> by on [on] walter norman [and] tyler & otherwise to this Interrogatorie he cannot depose.

...



*Star Chamber Minute Book*

Alnwick Castle: Percy Letters and Papers, vol 9 23/6

f 27, col 2\* (c 11 November) (*List of defendants and charges*)

...

	Causes specially appoynted to be hearde this Sittinge daie:/		5
	Actors in the shewe Atwell the busiest <sup>o†*</sup>		
Junij 5 <sup>to</sup> obi <sup>o</sup>	<sup>o</sup> Spinster <sup>o</sup>	Mathewe Lancaster	<sup>o</sup> with a distaf <sup>o</sup>
	<sup>o</sup> Grocer <sup>o</sup>	James Lyddeyarde	<sup>o</sup> with scales & fruite <sup>o</sup>
Junij 5 <sup>to</sup> obi <sup>o</sup>	<sup>o</sup> Scrivener <sup>o</sup>	Robert Attwell <sup>o</sup> P. <sup>o</sup>	<sup>o</sup> with a desk & <i>compters</i> <sup>o</sup>
	<sup>o</sup> Hatter <sup>o</sup>	Thomas Byson	<sup>o</sup> with old hats <sup>o</sup>
	<sup>o</sup> Pewterer <sup>o</sup>	John Smith	<sup>o</sup> with pewter ware <sup>o</sup>
		John Roddewaie <sup>o</sup> Drummer <sup>o</sup>	
		Alexander Towse maior	<sup>o</sup> C. & N. <sup>o</sup> & Counterwarrant <sup>o</sup>
		Leonarde Crosse <sup>o</sup> C. <sup>o</sup>	
		Edwarde wadham <i>Armiger</i> <sup>o</sup> C. <sup>o</sup>	
		James Godwin <i>gentleman</i>	<sup>o</sup> Pr <sup>o</sup> & countenancers of
		william Bull <sup>o</sup> C. <sup>o</sup>	minstrels in time of devine
		William watkins <sup>o</sup> C & Pr. <sup>o</sup>	service <sup>o</sup>
		William Evans [P]	<sup>o</sup> read the libell (...) in the
			hearing of diuers <sup>o</sup>
		William Atwell	}
		Henry ffoster <sup>o</sup> G. C. <sup>o</sup>	
		Edmunde white <sup>o</sup> P. & G. & C. – Profaner <sup>o</sup>	
		William Gamadge <sup>o</sup> L P & (...) – (...)inge at it <sup>o</sup>	
		John Gilbert <i>gentleman</i>	<sup>o</sup> lent 3. horses directed the
			painting & paid for it <sup>o</sup>
		Walter Smith <sup>o</sup> a painter <sup>o</sup>	
		vertue Hunt	
		Robert Creese	<sup>o</sup> gatherers for ye sportes <sup>o</sup>
		Thomas Hall	
		Stephen Millwarde <sup>o</sup> P. & C. & Profaner <sup>o</sup>	
		Oliver Martin <sup>o</sup> P. <sup>o</sup>	
		Thomasine white <sup>o</sup> P. <sup>o</sup>	
		Thomas Haggett <sup>o</sup> P. <sup>o</sup>	<sup>o</sup> carried it to be printed. <sup>o</sup>
		John Hodges <i>alias</i> Hiscox	<sup>o</sup> P. <sup>o</sup> & <sup>o</sup> deliuerd <sup>o</sup> [carried] it
			[b] <sup>o</sup> to <sup>o</sup> be printed <sup>o</sup>
		William Williams <i>alias</i>	
		Morgan Iunior	<sup>o</sup> L. & P. <sup>o</sup>
		George Greenesteede	}
		Edwarde Carie. <sup>o</sup> Pr. <sup>o</sup>	
		[Thomas Peters]	
		[William Stott]	

...

col 1\* (*Notes for sentencing*)

- ° (<...>tes, [<...>] <sup>Λ</sup> [<...>]<sup>1</sup>, 3. pillory, fine imprisonment with papirs, aske forgiuines  
publickly of the partes grievd  
<.>ublishers [pillory], fine <sup>Λ</sup> &<sup>1</sup> imprisonment [<...>]<sup>1</sup> aske forgiuines<sup>1</sup> damages 5  
to the *plainant* bound to good behavior.  
<...>tors, pillory, fine imprisonment.  
<.>owtenanceres & [<.>bettors], fine, imprisonment.  
<.>rofaners of the sabboth day *contrary* to ye <sup>Λ</sup> [*kings*]<sup>1</sup> proclamation.  
pillory <sup>Λ</sup> [with papers]<sup>1</sup> [imprisonment good <...>] imprisonment good <.>ehaviour, 10  
& fine 40. lib. a <.>eice, aske forgiuines of the *plainant*  
<...>madge .3. pillory with paper aske for<...>nes, fine 50 lib. imprisonment,  
bound <...> good behaviour  
<...>s 2. pillory, 40 lib. fine & the <...> as Gamadge  
Hole. Meade. Yard. Palmer. Willis  
Clothier. pewterer. Habadasher. grocer. vsurer 15  
<.>owner (*blank*) [<...>]  
scrivener (*blank*) <...> published  
<.>. Gamage rod with the picture of holes  
<.>blissers [fine/ impris/]<sup>1</sup> 30 lib. dam<.>ges paid 10 lib. good behaviour & 20  
<...>isonment, videlicet .4. but 2.  
<...> 10 lib. fine & imprisonment.  
<.> Gilbert, an abettor of the games <.> lib. fine & imprisonment°  
...

f 28, col 1\*

- <...> Gamadg to stand there at Westminster on the pillory with a paper about  
his head notifieng his offence of infamous libelling.  
at Wells to stand in the pillory [& there to] with the like paper, [& there to 30  
bee whipt;] & to aske publick [offe] forgiuines of the *plainant*. fined at [40]  
<sup>Λ</sup> [40 <...>]<sup>1</sup> <sup>Λ</sup> [50]<sup>1</sup> lib. & imprisond [till hee pay the same]. & [put] bound to ye  
good behavior. to stand likewise in the pillory at the next assises in Somerset.  
[<...>]  
Williams, pillory with papers at Wells, & the next Assises in Somerset <sup>Λ</sup> [40] 35  
<sup>Λ</sup> [30 <...>]<sup>1</sup> <sup>Λ</sup> [40 [30]<sup>1</sup> lib. fine, imprisonment & bound to good behavior [<...>]  
[aske forgiuines]<sup>1</sup>  
Edmund White imprisonment [200. lib.] [damages to the *plainant*. 50. lib.]

8/ &lt;.&gt;owtenanceres: corrected from &lt;.&gt;owtences(?)

20/ &lt;...&gt;blissers: for &lt;.&gt;blishers, ie publishers(?)

34, 36/ [&lt;...&gt;]: whole line crossed out

Milward	}	imprisonment. bound to good behavior [att] to be fined at [300 (..) lib] <sup>1</sup> 30.lib <sup>1</sup> a piece, & 20. lib. a piece to the <i>plainant</i>
Marten		
Hagget		

[John Gilbert/]

John Hodg(.). imprisonment. fine 10. lib. [bound to good behavior]

5

William Evans. imprisonment [20] <sup>1</sup>10 li.<sup>1</sup> fine [bound to good behaviour]

col 3\*

&lt;...&gt;

10

proverbs - 18.

psalme 100.

psalme - 50.

Crescit in *immensum perversa licentia* Mimi.

Cum sponte confitente mutuis est agendum.

15

Qui tacet, consentire videtur.

non audi quia non <sup>1</sup>valde<sup>1</sup> bona, non vitupero quia ad<sup>1</sup>i<sup>1</sup> aphora, non facio  
quia sepe noxia, spoken of publick masks or like shews.

famosus libellus est titillens voluptas, but Aristophanes died of it.

Pictoribus atque poëtis, quidlibet audendi semper fuit æqua potestas.

20

12. tables. death

Lex Cornelia to be intestates.

Suetonius - to be banishd.

Ca(...)te to haue him whipt.

Charles the 5. imprisonment &amp; (...)cles.

25

arcus *semper* tensus rumpitur.

col 4

&lt;...&gt;

30

Iulij .5. Iacobi

Publisher of ye same.

Scoffed at ye <sup>1</sup>kings<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>proclamation

25. Iunij .5. Iacobi

Actor of ye holing game.

William Williams  
alias Morgan.Libeller.  
Publisher.August  
et September  
5. Iacobi

35

Edmond White.  
Stephen Milward.  
Oliver Marten.  
Thomas Hagget.  
John Hodges.

}

publishers of  
the <sup>1</sup>1:<sup>1</sup> libell.

40

William Evans. }

of the 2. libell.

Mathewe Lancaster  
James Liddeard  
Robert Atwell P.  
Thomas Bison.  
Iohn Smith. }

Actors of the  
scandalous shew  
18. Iunij .5. Iacobi

Iohn Gilbert  
imprisonment  
20 lib. fine. }

for abetting ye  
holinge game by  
directing & payeng  
the painter &  
lending his horses  
for both shews.

the actors twice pillory with papers 30. lib. fine, imprisonment, & bound to  
good behavior, and at Wells to aske forgiuenes of the *plainant* [& all other]  
(...)

f 29\*

Robert Atwell *confesseth* the matter acted by him but denieth any purpose  
of ill meaning or (...)ting of any man; or that the said things were done [at  
service] <sup>at</sup> the time of devine service on the sabbaoth day.

William Williams *confesseth* the making of the libell for mirths sake but  
denieth the rest.

Thomas Haggat received a libell or rime or maygame from Hiscox alias Hodges  
servant to Edmund White, which he carried to london to be printed

James Liddeard *confesseth* the riding on a horse at that time but denieth any  
<sup>ill</sup> practis or lewd meaning

Qui non prohibet iniuriam cum possit iubet

1. These maygames at the time of thinsurrection in Northamptonshire.
2. Generall at that time about that place
3. Many robberies & frays then committed & bolstred or consented.  
[...]
4. Disobedience & contempts of the Iudges & Bishops warrants.
- [5. The Church stock employed about this bisnes.]

6/ 18 Iunij .5. Iacobi: date underlined in MS

22/ Atwell: underlined in MS

31/ Qui ... iubet: 'He who does not forbid an injury when he could orders (it).'

6. Many menn: assembled in armes to countenance this shew with a drummer.
7. The carelesnes of the Chiefe Magistrats – respecting these disorders
8. Letters Written from some complainantes to others of there discontent Proclamations [4.] *pro*(..) that no publick playes or maygames to be vsed on the sondays

5

*Interrogatories for John Gylbert, Gentleman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 116v (14 November)

- 10 Item did not *yow* with dyvers others in your Ladies Lyveries the 24<sup>th</sup> of may [wh] 1607 beinge Whit sonday accompany the said Edmond White and his wif beinge your chief Ladie dauncinge at the maypole neer the high Crosse there & cryinge heigh for Hole now for hole, and did *yow* not meane the complainant thereby and of what age is the said Whites wife as *yow* suppose.  
...
- 13 Item was not he that caryed the deske rydinge next vnto Gamage, your man or belonginge vnto you or whose man was he & what is his name, were they not your horses mares or geldinges on which he rode <sup>^</sup>& on which Gamage rode<sup>^</sup> or whose were they <sup>^</sup>or any of them<sup>^</sup> who appointed them so to ryde, what did he write <sup>^</sup>that caryed the deske<sup>^</sup> [as he rode], & what was the meaninge therof  
...

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*Examination of John Gylbert, Gentleman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 130\* (14 November)

25

- 1 To ye 1 Interrogatorie [to ye] this deffendant sayeth that about ye 3<sup>d</sup> day of may 1607 beinge sunday as this deffendant taketh<sup>^</sup>it<sup>^</sup> this deffendant with some others in his company about 8 of ye clock [in ye afternoone] <sup>^</sup>after supper<sup>^</sup> [this deffendant with some others] did dance in ye strete of <sup>^</sup>ye sayd citie of<sup>^</sup> wells in ye countie of somersett but <sup>^</sup>nether<sup>^</sup> this deffendant <sup>^</sup>nor any [to this] in this deffendants company to his remembrance<sup>^</sup> did [not] whope or halloe when as they cam neare to ye complainants house nor at any other place or places, but this deffendant confesseth that after the[e] sayd dauncing this deffendant with divers others in his companie did goe into [ye sayd] <sup>^</sup>a<sup>^</sup> tavern and did moderaty drinke together. but this deffendant doth not know that any man did compass ye streets in such maner as the complainant could not pass by, nor farther nor otherwis to this Interrogatorie can this deffendant depose.  
...

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sheet 130v\*

3. To ye 3<sup>d</sup> *Interrogatorie* this deffendant sayeth that ... he caused on smyth a ioyner to <sup>Λ</sup>make<sup>1</sup> ye sayd niene hooles in a borde but did nether direct him for ye shape therof nor caused ye same to be paynted with ye shapes and formes about(.) named but ye sayd Gamage after ye sayd niene hooles were so made as afforesayd did desier to carie ye same about and this deffendant did pay for ye making of ye sayd nieneholes <sup>Λ</sup>but what or how much he [this] doth not now remember<sup>1</sup> but [that] he did not geve any direction for any speaches to be vsed by ye sayd Gamage.

...

sheet 131

...

- 10 To ye 10 *Interrogatorie* this deffendant sayeth that he did vppon whitsunday 1607 daunce with ye wyfe of ye sayd white betwixt ye howers of 8 & 9 in ye afternoone but he doth not remember that <sup>Λ</sup>he<sup>1</sup> this deffendant did name ye sayd Hole in his dauncing nether doth this deffendant know what age the <sup>Λ</sup>wyf of ye sayd white<sup>1</sup> [sayd white his wyf] is of.

sheet 131v

...

To ye 13 *Interrogatorie* this deffendant sayeth that he that did rid after ye sayd Gamage cariing a desk [in his] before him was not this deffendants servant nor belonging to him but his name <sup>Λ</sup>was<sup>1</sup> (*blank*) Ballard dwelling in east wells as this deffendant taketh it, but this deffendant confesseth that [y] 3 of ye sayd horses [was] were this deffendants but who did ride vppon them or what was ment by ye sayd desk & ye writting therevppon this deffendant knoweth not

...

*Interrogatories for William Gamage* PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 153

...

- 13 Itzm were there in & about the said 25<sup>th</sup> daye of Iune & dyvers other dayes bothe before & after in the sayd Cytye of Wells a great number of men assembled together in armes both ffootemen & horsemen with launces pykes drummes ensign(.) shott bowes & arrowes & other munition to accompany you in your sayd shewes, howe many were ther of them so assembled in armes

in your estimacion or as you veryly thinke, to what end & by whose meanes were they so assembled

...

- 25 Item were ther [not] in & about the sayd 18<sup>th</sup> daye of Iune in the sayd Cyty of Wells a great number of men assembled together in armes both ffootemen and horsemen with launces pykes drummes ensignes shott bowes & arrowes & other munition to accompany the sayd men rydinge in the habittes or formes of trades men as aforesayd howe many were ther of them so assembled in armes in your estimacion or as you veryly thinke to what end & intent & by whose meanes were they so assembled & were ther not many persons or some one person hurte in the sayd shewes with a peece./ who was so hurte & by whom were they or he so hurte

...

sheet 153v\*

- 27 Item vppon what occasion of speches vrged you to vse the sayde words as [holinge] holinge or not holinge for a crowne as in your sayde aunswere is expressed, who gave occasion of anie sutche speeches, or who vrged you by anie [sutche] speeches to vse the sayde words of holinge or not holinge for a crowne, what weare the speeches and trewe manner of the occasion that vrged you thearevnto, and what weare <sup>^</sup>[or was] the name or names of the person or persons that weare or was the occasioner or vrger of anie sutche speeches.

...

*Examination of William Gamage* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 143-4\* (6 December)

...

- <sup>w</sup> a prisoner  
the ffleete William Gamadge [the sayed Examinnate] <sup>^</sup>[late of wells in the Countye of Somerset] [being] sworne and examined To the firste Interrogatory saithe That in Iune the yeare 1607 mencyoned in the Interrogatory (but whether <sup>^</sup>[on] the [seaven] <sup>^</sup>[fve] and twentye daye or not, he doeth not knowe) This defendant did ride vppon [and] horseback, vpp and downe the streetes of wells within the Countye of Somerset with manye other persons, whose names this <sup>^</sup>[defendant] [Examinat] doethe not knowe (thoughe he thincketh yf agayne hee should see them hee should knowe many of theire persons, at which tyme there was carryed athwart on horseback a borde of a yeard longe, on eache syde wherevppon were paynted, twoe men with a wooman betweene them the wooman hauinge a hatt in the one hand and a brushe in the other,

and neyne holes were cutt or boarded in the lower parte of the sayed bord throughe one of *which* this *defendant* did trundle a small ball vppon an other bord of the like lengthe fastened thereunto But whoe carryed the *sayed* bordes hee doethe not knowe And further saiethe hee was not aduised entreated or procured soe to ryde but did the same voluntarily, and knoweth not the names of any of the persons that then did soe rid And more vnto this *Interrogatory* he cannot depose./

- 2 To the seconde *Interrogatory* This *defendant* sayethe That hee did not in the sayde Ridinge vse speeches vnto anye that accompanied him, that hee holes or holes not for a Crowne, but for xij d. and x s. he sayed, he <sup>1</sup>holed<sup>1</sup> he this <sup>1</sup>defendant<sup>1</sup> [Examine] saiethe further that at the sayed tyme of sporte twice onlye he hearde it sayed [<sup>1</sup>][that he holeth for a crowne]<sup>1</sup> butt by whome hee knowethe not, that it was better to hole I [to hole] it in a meade but that euer this <sup>1</sup>defendant<sup>1</sup> [Examinat] vused the *sayed* speeches hee vtterly denyethe And moreouer hee saiethe [as] concerninge the horse this <sup>1</sup>defendant<sup>1</sup> [Examine] road on in Thaccion *aforesayed* hee doethe not knowe whoes he was but all that therin hee cann depose is the sayed horse was brought vnto this *defendant* by a neighbor of Mr Iohn Gilbert(.) of wells *aforesayed* dwelling aboute twoe or three howses from him whose name hee knowethe not but that hee was a man vsinge to labor in the mynes, and touchinge instruction what to saye or doe in that Action hee <sup>1</sup>neither<sup>1</sup> receaued nor had anye of anye person And further vnto this *Interrogatory* he Cannot saye/
- 3 To the third *Interrogatory* This *defendant* sayeth That at the same tyme twoe others did alsoe ryde [vppon] either of them <sup>1</sup>vppon<sup>1</sup> a horse, thone of *which* carryed a great booke of paper[,] onlye, but what thereby was represented he doethe not knowe, nor what the other of them then carryed, whether a noddye bord and payre of Cardes or not, further hee saiethe that he heard the wordes specified in the *Interrogatory* viz. that he holeth in the meade twice sayde in the same ridinge, but by whome hee knowethe not, the wordes that holinge in the streetes was againste the *kinges* proclamacion hee heard not: And this *defendant* saiethe that hee did not hereuppon spake to anye that carryed a deske before him, [Scryuener] Sett it do(...) Notarie that holinge is againste the lawe or againste the *kinges* proclamacion, nor was moued or aduised to vse the I sayed speeches or any of them, neither did anie othe(.) vnto this *defendants* knowledge vtter or speake wordes to th(.) effecte And more vnto this *Interrogatory* the sayed *defendant* depose the not./

...

13/ butt: corrected from by

34/ do(...): rest of word completely obscured by ink blot

36/ othe(.): upper right corner of sheet torn away

37/ th(.): upper right corner of sheet torn away



sheet 146\*

...

- 13 To the xiiij<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory This *defendant* saiethe That the daye menciyoned  
in this Interrogatory and diuerse tymes before and after the same there were  
in the sayed Citty of welles shewes made with footemen and horsemen with  
Launces Pykes drummes Ensignes shott bowes and arrowes, and other furnitures,  
the which shewes were not to accompanye this *defendant*: The number of  
which persons hee knowethe not, And will not beinge thereunto <sup>Λ</sup>required  
accordinge to thinterrogatory<sup>1</sup> [vrge] make anye estimacion of them or [(...)]  
what hee thincketh of their number. And more vnto this Interrogatory he  
deposethe not.

...

sheet 148v

- 25 To the xxv<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory This *defendant* saiethe That [there] <sup>Λ</sup>in the sayed  
Citty of wells<sup>1</sup> in or aboute the sayed xviiij<sup>th</sup> daye of [Iulye] Iune named in  
the interrogatory there were not anye armed men with pykes Launces, shott,  
bowes or arrowes, but <sup>Λ</sup>shewes<sup>1</sup> onlye <sup>Λ</sup>made with<sup>1</sup> drummes, the number[s]  
of [which] <sup>Λ</sup>the persons which in the same were Actors<sup>1</sup> he neither knowethe,  
nor cann estimate. And further he this *defendant* sayethe That knowethe not  
to what ende or purpose, or by whose meanes the same were soe assembled  
but thinck(...) the onlye cause thereof was for sporte and pasty(...) And  
further vnto this Interrogatory this *defendant* deposethe not./

sheet 149

...

- 27 To the seaven and twentieth Interrogatory This *defendant* saiethe That the  
occasyon of his speaches of holinge or not holeinge was by reason of some  
that wagered againste him this *defendant* that hee holed not, in suche their  
sporte and pastyme: But that euer this *defendant* therein vttered that hee  
holed for a Crowne, or otherwise then for a shillinge or tenne shillinge this  
*defendant* vtterlye denyethe And further vnto this Interrogatorye deposethe  
not./

...

*Joint Interrogatories for Thomas Hall and Robert Creese, Former  
Churchwardens of St Cuthbert's Parish* PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 194

...

- 2 Item did you beinge Churchwarden as aforesayd, of & by your selfe, or

together with *your partner*, in or about the sayd monthes of Maye or Iune, keepe & holde a Churchale in the Church howse, or Church yarde, of St Cutbertes in the Cytye of Wells, whoe gave you authoritye or lycence to keepe & holde any such Churchale, or who labored to obtayne for you, lycence & authoritye to keepe the same, or by what authoritye did you the same

- 3 Itm howe many bushells of mault did you brewe or cause to be brewed for & toward the keepinge of the said Churchale, howe much beere was spent at the sayd Churchale, besyde that *which* you brewed or caused to be brewed about what tyme of the month of Maye or Iune did you begin *your* sayd Churchale, & howe longe contynued the same:.
- 4 Item did you or any other for you or by *your perswasion* & appoyntment or to *your* knowledge begg, collect, or gather, any *somme* or *sommes* of money, or other thinges for & toward the keepinge of the said Churchale, or makinge of the shewes in the bill <sup>^</sup>[or libells rimes & verses] mencioned, howe much money was so collected & gathered, whoe contrybuted & gave any money toward the same, whoe so collected & gathered any such *somme* or *sommes* of money <sup>^</sup>& other thinges<sup>1</sup> declare his or their name or names, what & howe much was so collected by the said collectors, & howe was the money employed *which* was so collected./

...

***Certified Copy of Defendants' Examinations*** PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 213\* (10 January) (*Examination of Robert Creese, saddler, aged 33*)

...

- 2 To the second Interrogatory he sayth that he and his fellowe Churchwarden according to the auncient custome/ of that place/ dyd provide a *certeine* quantetie of bread and beare for the neighbors to yeate & drinke the said neighbors bringing such other *provision* as they themselves listed with them/ And that they dyd meet together aboute the sayd monyth of Iune/ in the Interrogatory mentioned in the Churchhowse & Churchyard, And that they the sayd Churchwardens so dyd according to auncient custome withoute any authoretie given vnto them so to do/
- 3 To the Third Interrogatory he sayth that he and his *partener* brewed or caused to be brewed .40. bushells of barlie maulte/ or thereaboutes, And that they boughte & spent the quantetie of 4 or 5 hogshedes of beare, or thereaboutes besides that *which* they themselves brewed as aforesayd And that they begann theyre brewing for the *purpose* aboute the 29<sup>th</sup> <sup>^</sup>[daie] of the monyth of Maye

7/ Itm: for Item; abbreviation mark missing

in the *Interrogatory* mentioned And that they made an end of theyre vttering of theyre bread & beare, aboute the 29<sup>th</sup> daie of Iune then nexte following./

- 4 To the 4<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that this *examinat* & his sayd *partener* aboute the tyme in the *Interrogatory* mentioned, dyd collecte and gather 5 some money and other thinges for the benefitt & mayntenance of the sayd *parishe* Church of St Cutbertes which was voluntarily given by the *parishoners* of the same *parishe*/ the *certen somme* or value whereof he doeth not now remember, but denyeth that any *parte* thereof to his knowledg was conuerted or ymployed to the setting forth or futherance/ of any shewes <sup>^</sup>in the<sup>l</sup> lybells 10 Rymes or verses <sup>^</sup>or<sup>l</sup> in this *Interrogatory* mentioned and also sayth that there was other money given by the Townsmen & gathered by this *examinat* & his *partener*, towards the painting and apparrelling of the Gyantes, onlie in the libell or bill mentioned the *certeine somme* whereof he doeth not now remember./ 15

...

*Joint Interrogatories for Virtue Hunt, Shoemaker and Stephen Millard, Tailor* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 200 20

...

- 13 Item did not the sayd minstrells the same daye, after the sayd *inlargement*, playe in the *streetes* of Wells, did they so playe in *your* presence or hearinge, or by *your* procurement, or whoe *procured* & animated them so to doe, did not they after their *inlargement* as aforesayd, playe before the morice dauncers 25 or other dauncers, were not you in their company & daunced with them, what number of people in *your* estimacion were then assembled in the sayd daunces, & followinge the sayd dauncers, did not the sayd dauncers & the people followinge them & *your* selfe in company, come & daunce before the sayd Constables dore, & did not you & the rest of the company with shoutinge whoopinge & holloinge <sup>^</sup>daunce<sup>l</sup> in the *streetes* before the sayd 30 Constables dore whoe willed or incoraged you or them so to doe:.

...

- 17 Item were ther many *persons* assembled together in & vppon the 24<sup>th</sup> daye of Maye in the yeare aforesayd, beinge whitsundaye in the *streetes* of the Cytie 35 of Wells, dauncinge <sup>^</sup>or<sup>l</sup> playinge & were not you of the same assemblye, notwithstandinge you heard the *proclamacion* read the daye before to the contrary, did not you, or *somme* others in *your* hearinge, at the tyme of *your* sayd dauncing vse these or the lyke speeches (viz heigh for hole, nowe for hole)

22/ the sayd minstrells: *John and Robert Mayne and Thomas Wingood*

22/ the same daye: 3 May 1607

whoe were they *yat* vsed the same speeches, whoe advysed them, for what cause, or to what end, did they or you vse the same or any such speeches:./

- 18 Item were ther not dyuers persons lykewyse assembled together, in & vppon the 31<sup>th</sup> daye of Maye beinge Trynitye sundaye, with morrice dauncinges, & with a Robinhood, what number of persons were assembled at that tyme in armes, with drummes ensignes shott & other munition, whoe was the Robinhood & what office or place had you in the same shewe  
...
- 27 Item did you not heare the sayd <sup>^</sup>lybell rymes or verses<sup>]</sup> sunge read or rehearsed at some one tyme, when you were at Pyll at a watch <sup>^</sup>[or Churchale<sup>]</sup> there, by whom was it ther so read sayd sunge or rehearsed, did you at any tyme se it written or heare it read sunge or repeated at Edmond White his shopp in Wells <sup>^</sup>[or any parte thereof<sup>]</sup>, by whom was it so done; Or have you at any other tyme or in any other place, knowen scene or heard it to be copyed written sayd sunge or repeated or any parte of it, declare the tyme, place, persons so doinge, & persons present & your whole knowledge conserninge the same.  
...

*Certified Copy of Defendants' Examinations* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 213v-14\* (10 January) (Examination of Stephen Millard, tailor, aged 43)

- 9 To the 9<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory he sayth that he doeth remember that vppon a Sundaie or holidai in the monyth of Maye in the Interrogatory mentioned, the *certain* daie whereof he doeth not remember,) this *examinat* coming from the mayors howse, after dynner he sawe many people assembled together having two minstrells playeng before them, and some at daunce, The sayd Complainant then Constable required the sayd minstrells & dauncers to ceasse, & give over, Wherevppon one mr William Watkins, beeing present amongste them, so assembled desired the sayd Constable not to disturbe the sayd people so assembled but to give them leave, sayeng that they were but young people and that yt was betweene l the tyme of morning & evening prayer, wherevppon the Constable answered the sayd Mr Watkins, that they should not contynue, theyre vnlawfull sportes sayeng you are a Dogge and a rebell, to maynteyne such disorders and therevppon the sayd Mr Watkins, told him that he beeing a master of the towne, was as good a man as the Constable, and that the Constable was a knave so to vse him./  
...
- 11 To the 11<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory he sayth that this *examinat* hearing the bell to Ring all in for evening prayer, willed the sayd minstrells and people so assembled to

give over and therevpon the minstrells gave over playeng, and came into this *examinates* howse, and there left theyre *instrumentes*, and went *presentlie* to Church as he thinketh but denyeth that the sayd minstrell, was rescued or so conveyed into his howse, beeing rescued as in the *Interrogatory* is mentioned to the knowledge of this *examinat*, And this *examinat* doeth not knowe that the sayd minstrell was found at Cardes in his howse, at the tyme mentioned in the *Interrogatory*, and more he cannot depose./

...

- 13 To the xiiij<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that the same minstrells were apprehended and committed to prison by the sayd Constables and afterwarde released, by the sayd Mr Mayor and after theyre enlargement the same daie, did playe with theyre *instrumentes* againe the people dauncing in the open sreetes, at or neare the place where they were formerlie apprehended, but whither vpon this daie mentioned in the *Interrogatory* he knoweth not, & more or otherwise to this *Interrogatory* he cannot depose.

...

17. To the 17<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that he hath daunced many tymes in the sayd monyth of maye vpon Sabboth daies or hollidaies but whither vpon the daie mentioned in this *Interrogatory* he cannot *certainlie* depose./

...

18. To the .18.<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that in and vpon the xxxj<sup>th</sup> daie of Maye as he taketh yt beeing Trinitie sundaie, in the *Interrogatory* mentioned, there were diuers persons assembled in the streetes of the sayd Cytie of Welles, so that the street where they were beeing the *markett place* was almost full of people/ with dauncing & with a Robinhood, and that a great number of others at that tyme/ were assembled together, having amongst them a Drumme an ensigne shott & other munition, And that one Robert Prinne of Welles yeoman was the Robinhood, and that this *examinat* was the sayd Robinhoodes man carrieng with him a bowe & arrowes./

...

sheet 214v\*

...

27. To the 27<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that he beeing at a warche or Churchale at Pill in the Countie of Somerset in the monyth of Iulie in the yeare aforesayd he dyd heare the libell in the 24<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* mentioned or *somme parte* thereof read in the hearing of many persons whose names he nowe remembreth not, and he well remembreth, that in the head of the sayd libell, or Ryme there was written these or the like wordes (viz) Gamadge his Idle brayne, and in the foote thereof or end thereof was written ffinis *per me* William Gamadge

and further or otherwise to this *Interrogatory* he cannot depose, then before he hath to other *Interrogatories* deposed/  
...

*Interrogatories for James Godwin, Gentleman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 198

- ...
- 5 Item were not many people detayned & kept from Church on all or many of the sayd saboath dayes, by meanes of the sayd shewes & maygames, were you your wyffe & daughters all or any of you, & howe many of you, & howe often were you at Church vppon the scuerall saboath dayes aforesayd, were not the morice dauncers on somme of the saboath dayes aforesayd at or in your house preparing & apparrellinge themselves, in the tyme of prayer & devyne service, & did not you perswade incorage or commend the said morice dauncers or any other that made shewes about the streetes of the Cytye of Wells, for their sayd sportes & shewes, & did not you gev(.) money or other rewardes to them or somme of them for the same:

...

*Certified Copy of Defendants' Examinations* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 215\* (10 January) (*Examination of James Godwin, gentleman, aged 44*)

- ...
- 5 To the 5<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that there were not many nor any people, deteyned from Church on all the sayd sabboth daies as in the *Interrogatory* is mentioned by meanes of the sayd shewes to his knowledge ... And he this *Examinat* denyeth that the morrice dauncers or any of them on the sabboth daies aforesayd or any of them were in his howse preparing and apparrelling themselves as in the *Interrogatory* is mentioned to the knowledge of this *examinat* and denieth that he dyd incorage perswade or comend the sayd morrice dauncers or any of them, nor gave to them nor any of them, any money or other reward to his this *examinates* remembrance, but thinketh that some of his people dyd or mighte, give to them or somme of them, some beere or some thing else as they passed by his this *examinates* howse/

...

*Interrogatories for John Smith* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 195

- ...
- 1 Inprimis did not you in and about the 18<sup>th</sup> day of Iune <sup>at</sup> when Southover streete by tourne went to the Churchale<sup>1</sup> in the 5 yere of his Maiesties Raigne

9/ the sayd saboath dayes: those in May and June 1607

with diuers others ryde disguisedly in and about the streetes of Wells your selfe being in the habitt or forme of a pewterer with a planck or bord before you a thwarte the horse hauing a sawcer in one of your handes and a hammer in the (.)ther <sup>λ</sup>& with a pott & a skymmer at your g(...)le<sup>1</sup> whome or what did you meane or represent by your rydinge (.)n that manner, did you not there by allude vnto one Hugh (.)ead then of Welles pewterer by your said shewe or to his trade, whoe advised, counselled, perswaded, or abetted, you soe to (.)de whoe provided or furnished you with that horse meare or gelding whereon you rode, and with the borde hammer and sawcer which then you carayed, or whose horse bord hammer [or] and sawcer were they and [(...)]<sup>1</sup> euery<sup>1</sup> or anie of them and where and at whose howse or backsid did you take horse

...

- 4 Item whether rode you after this manner, and howe long continued the said Mr Towse or any other of the Masters of the Towne, in your companie, and which of the said Masters of the Towne were then in your company, did the said Mr Towse, or any of the Masteres of the Towne, or Mr Whadham, Henry ffoster, William Atwell, Iames Godwine, or any of them or any other, giue you any incoragment soe to ride, did the said Mr Towse and the rest supp at the Church ale that <sup>λ</sup>daye or<sup>1</sup> night, and did you and the rest that soe rod supp that tyme, and whoe paid for your suppers or for any of you; did you not after supper ryd in the companie of the said Mr Towse, and the rest of the Masters & other<sup>1</sup> of the defendantes<sup>1</sup> in mane(.)<sup>λ</sup>r<sup>1</sup> as afore said, towarde the market place.

...

25

**Certified Copy of Defendants' Examinations** PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 215v-16\* (10 January) (Examination of John Smith, husbandman, aged 28)

...

- 1 To the ffirste Interrogatory he sayth that in or aboute the 18<sup>th</sup> daie of Iune in the Interrogatory mentioned he this examinat with som others dyd Ryde, disguisedlie in and aboute the streetes of the Cytie of Welles himselffe representing a Pewterer, with a planke or board before him having a sawcer in one hand and a hammer in the other with a pott and a skymmer at his guirdle, And sayth that he this examinat dyd not represent, the person of the sayd Hugh Meade, in the Interrogatory mentioned nor any other of that trade thereby, But beeing demaunded who willed advised councelled or abetted him so to Ryde, or who dyd so furnishe him with that horsse or guelding on which he Roade, or with the board hammer sawcer and other thinges which he then

23/ mane(.)<sup>λ</sup>r<sup>1</sup>: final  $\tau$  obscured by ink blot and restored above the line

carried, he doeth not remember, but sayth that coming from his husbandrie worke home to his howse in Sowthover he found sundrie persons assembled together at Robert Atwells howse in Welles aforesayd readie to make somme shewe or pastyme, in the towne, and wanting one to make of the number, he tooke a horse that there stode tyed at a poste and gott vp vppon him, and Road in that disguised manner, as before he hath confessed/ And sayth that the horsse on which he Road was the horsse of one Henry ffoster of Wells aforesayd, but the hammer and sawcer were his owne and further he cannot depose/

...

- 4 To the 4<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory he sayth that he dyd Ryd as before he hath confessed and sayth that he this examin<sup>at</sup> the same night/ dyd supp at the Churchhowse with the rest of them <sup>1</sup>at<sup>1</sup> Road and theyre companie causing theyre owne meate to be broughte thither and payd for such other thinges, as they there had, as other men dyd neyther dyd any man give him allowance for the same, And after supper he with the companie, dyd likewise Ryd to the high Crosse in disguised manner l as aforesayd, And sayth that neyther the sayd Mr Towse nor any <sup>1</sup>of<sup>1</sup> the masters of the Towne nor mr Wadham Henry ffoster William Atwell nor any of them, nor any other, dyd give any incoragement, to them so to ryd nor were in theyre Companie to his this examines knowledge./

...

*Interrogatories for Alexander Towse, Gentleman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1 sheet 199

...

- 2 Item whether did Iohn Hole the Complainant then Constable, often acquainte you with many assemblyes, & dyuers other disorders, in the sayd Cytye of Wells, by maygames & morice dauncinges vppon dyuers saboath dayes in the sayd monethes of Maye & Iune, did he request your ayde & furtheraunce, in the Reformation thereof, howe often did he so request it, and what Reformation was ther vppon had:.
- 3 Item whether did you give leave lycence or authoritye, to the Churchwardens of the parische of St Cutbertes in Wells, for the keepinge of a Churchale, or beinge kept did you prohibite it, did you give countenance to the same either by your presence at it, or any other waye, did you give or cause to be given any money corne mault or any other provisyon toward the same/
- 11 Item were not you in & vppon the 15<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> dayes of Iune in the yeare aforesayd, as some one of them in company together with mr Wadham,



Leonard Crosse, William Bull, William Watkins, Iames Godwyn, William Atwell, Henrye ffoster & Edmund White or somme of them, & howe many were of them at the Churchale then held & kept in the Cytye of Wells, were not you or some of the sayd companye assembled & called together by the sound of a drumme, what shewes did then goe with or before you toward or from the sayd Churchale, did not you or some of your companye then at the sayd Churchale, & which of them, fynde fault with the Complainant & with the sayd yard, Mead, & Palmer in the bill mencioned or somme of them, for that they did not lykewyse come to the sayd Churchale, & were not you or some of your companye disconted with & much blame the Complainant, for that he dislyked & labored to suppress the sayd assemblyes & disorders on the saboath dayes as aforesayd, & whoe were they that so blamed or found fault with him for the same:./

- 12 Item did you in & vppon the 18<sup>th</sup> daye of Iune in the yeare aforesayd <sup>15</sup> when Southover streete went vnto the sayd Churchale by their tourne<sup>l</sup>, send vnto your brethren other the masters of ye Towne, or to somme of them, to goe with you to accompany mr Wadham to the Church ale, did they or any of them <sup>16</sup> & whoe & which of them by name<sup>l</sup> come vnto you, or meete you & goe with you to the sayd Church ale, did you as you went thetherward, or as you came from theare, or any tyme yat daye se dyuers men rydinge in the habittes or formes of trades men, representinge men of seuerall trades, (viz.) Thomas Byson in the forme or habitt of an haberdasher Mattheue Lancaster representinge a worsted spynner, Iohn Smyth representinge a pewterer, Iames Lydeard & another representinge a mercer, Robert Atwell & another representinge an vsurer & a scryvener, howe longe were you in company with them or any of them, or they with you:./
- 13 Item doe you knowe or did you or could you gather by any circumstance or report that the disguised persons aforesaid representinge men of trades, did by their sayd shewes represent or intend to represent the Complainant, & the sayd yard, Mead, or Palmer, in the bill mencioned or any of them, or therby in any sorte abuse them or any of them, did you saye when you sawe them that ther was knavery in it, or wordes to the lyke effect, what moved you so to saye, & were you not then tolde by Iames Godwyn or by some other, that

10/ disconted: *for* discontented

10/ &: *for* & did(?)

15m/ 12: *corrected from* 11

18, 20/ ale: *apparently written over erasure, probably howsc, possibly in another hand*

29/ 13: *corrected from* 12

you should se sporte that would make the Complainant & the sayd yard Mead & Palmer or some or one of them to sweate, or wordes to the lyke effect, what were the wordes & by whom were they spoken:.

...

- 17 Item did the Complainant then Constable (seinge the tumultes & disorders in the sayd Cytye of Wells as aforesayd) desyre *your* ayde in the Reformati<sup>o</sup>n thereof, did you then aide & assist him therin to the vttmost of *your* power, or did you not answer him that he was to busye in medlinge in those matters, or wordes to the lyke effect & what moved you so to saye:./

...

*Certified Copy of Defendant's Examinations* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 216v-17\* (10 January) (Examination of Alexander Towse, gentleman,  
former mayor of Wells, aged 65)

...

- 2 To the second Interrogatory he sayth that the sayd Complainant then Constable dyd somtymes acquainte, this examin<sup>a</sup>t beeing then mayor, with diuers assemblies, in the sayd Cittie of Wells by maygames sportes and daunces, vppon som one or two, saboth daies or other hollidaies in the sayd monythes of Maye and Iune, in this Interrogatory mentioned, And sayth that the sayd Complainant dyd at one tyme vppon a Saboth daie as this examin<sup>a</sup>t now remembreth complaine vnto him this examin<sup>a</sup>t of *certen* abuses & contempts comitted against the said Complainant, then Constable (as the sayd Complainant then informed him, this examin<sup>a</sup>t) by a Coople of minstrells, but how often and for what occasions, the sayd Complainant so came vnto him, to crave his ayd this examin<sup>a</sup>t now *certenlie* remembreth not, And vppon the sayd Complainte made vnto him by the Complainant of one of the minstrells, beeing a taborer he this examin<sup>a</sup>t went presentlie with the sayd Constable, and finding the sayd minstrell, at the bower where he had played neare the Church style, he this examin<sup>a</sup>t found faulte with the sayd minstrell for disobeying the said Constables former Comaundment, and therevppon willed the sayd Constable to take him to his ward
- 3 To the Third Interrogatory he sayth that he dyd not give leave lycence or authoretie to the Churchwardens of the sayd parishe of St Cutbertes in Wells for thee keeping of any Churchale there, But sayth that one Robert Creese, and Thomas Hall, the Churchwardens for the tyme beeing came vnto him this examin<sup>a</sup>t in the behalffe of the greatest & cheefest parte of the sayd

6/ as aforesayd: on 18 June 1607

21/ a Saboth daie: probably 3 May 1607

22/ him: corrected from his

parishe, at two seuerall tymes ffive or Sixe daies distant one from an other, and intreated to have his leave & good will, that they mighte keepe a Churchale in the sayd parishe for the benefitt of theyre Church but this *examinat* vtterlie disliked theyre motion, alleaging <sup>^</sup>[these] reasons amongst others as he now remembreth (viz.) ffirst for that the Lord Cheeffe Iustice of England, then living & other Iustices of the peace at a *generall* Sessions ordered that all Churchales within this Countie, of *Somerset*, should be from that tyme forward suppressed which sayd order was kepte and observed, within the sayd parishe for the space of .13. or .14. yeares after Secondlie for that the *examinat* beeing a Iustice of peace, but onlie for the sayd towne, and not for the oute parishe, and there beeing ffive other Iustices of the peace for the Countie dwellinge | within the same Towne and parishe, this *examinat* sayd yt was fitter they should go vnto them or some of them, for the obteyning of theyre sayd sute, Thirdlie because there was alreadie a taxe or Rate formerlie made & agreed vppon by the parishoners, for the mayntenance, of the sayd Church by which sayd Rates the sayd Church had been maynteyned & repayed, by the space of 13. or .14. yeares before that tyme, And that he this *examinat* and diuers others had payd theyre sayd Rates and porcions alredie for that yeare/

...

- 11 To the 11<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory he sayth that he was in and vppon the sayd daies in the Interrogatory mentioned in the companie of Mr Wadham Leonard Crosse William Bull Iames Godwin William Watkins Edmund White William Atwell, and Henry ffoster or some of them with diuers others (viz) Beniamyn Haydon then Deane of Welles, and diuers of the Cannons and prebendes of the Cathedrall Church of Welles with many others of the parishe who supped at the Churchhowse & Church yeard in this <sup>^</sup>[examines] Companie and spent theyre money verie liberallie for the mayntenance of the Church, And sayth that there were diuers pageantes and shewes caryed before them in the streetes as they wet homeward, to theyre howses but all in peaceable manner, And sayth that <sup>^</sup>[there] were some of the companie, that dyd make some speaches of the absence of the Complainant, & others for not coming among them, at these meetinges and specyallie at that daie, when thenhabitantes of the high street, came to the sayd churchhowse wherein they dwelte, but some of them (viz) Mead and yeard, sent theyre money verie liberallie, with theyre excuse for theyre not coming which was accepted of accordinglie: and further he cannot depose./

12/ within the: catchwords at foot of sheet 216v read in the

21-2/ sayd daies ... mentioned: 15-17 June 1607

30/ wct: for went; abbreviation mark missing

- 12 To the 12<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that he dyd not vppon the daies in the *Interrogatory* mentioned send vnto any of his bretheren, the masters of the towne, to goe with mr Wadham and other thenhabitantes of Southover street to the Churchhowse but he him selffe dyd goe in whose companie others of the neighbors voluntarilie went to keep him this *examinat* companie whose names he doeth not now remember, And further sayth that after supper tyme, of the same daie, he this *examinat* beeing then mayor standing at or in the high Crosse, in the Cittie of Wells with the Deane aforsayd and many others of good and honest reputacion beholding and looking vppon diuers pageantes sportes and shewes of diuers kindes and qualleties, then and there set forthe, amongst which sayd sportes and shewes he sawe some Ryding in manner and forme, as in the *Interrogatory* is sett downe, but who the persons were that so Road save onlie one Smyth beating vppon a Sawcer, or whome or what they dyd represent therby of his owne knowledge he cannot depose/
- 13 To the 13<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that he doeth not knowe (but dyd gather and coniecture by the concepte & speaches, of Mr James Godwin in this *Interrogatory* mentioned who standing at the sayd high Crosse, neare behind this *examinat*, beganne to speake in private to this *examinat*, asking him how he liked the sayd shewes & sportes, who answered that he sawe no great cause of dislike, whervppon the sayd James Godwyn, oute of his owne concepte as this *examinat* raketh yt sayd these or <sup>the</sup> like wordes in effecte (viz) that they were easie enoughe to be vnderstood by the apparant shewes of them, ffor by the beating of a sawcer with a hammer by him that Road on horsback as aforsayd he thoughte was ment Hugh Mead in the bill of Complaint mentioned, and by him that carried a brushe in one hand and a hat in thother, offering hattes to sell, he thoughte was ment the sayd Yeard in the *Interrogatory* mentioned, whervppon this *examinat* waighing his speaches dyd more advisedlie, marke the sayd representacions and with great mislyking of them sayd there was knauerie in yt but concerning the other wordes of making any to sweate in the *Interrogatory* mentioned, he remembreth not any such to be spoken in his hearing
- ...
- sheet 217v\*
- ...
17. To the 17<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that the sayd Complainte came not to this *examinat* the same .18<sup>th</sup> daie of Iune in the which the sayd shewes were made,

1/ daies: for daie(?)

1-2/ the daies ... mentioned: 18 June 1607

6/ supper: first p corrected from per

16/ (but: opening parenthesis used instead of comma?)

37/ Complainte: for Complainante

to complaine of any diorders or abuses comitted or donne, against him or any other, but sayth that the sayd Hugh mead somthing late in the evening after the sayd shewes were ended, came vnto this *examinat*, then mayor and complayned vnto him of some abuses offered vnto him [by] and others by some shewes and *representacions* as aforesayd and desired this *examinates* ayd at tyme convenient for the redresse thereof so farr as his authoretic would extend, whervpon this *examinat* made some *relacion* of what he had seen and hard & spoken, touching the same shewes and promised him to do his best indevor to examine the matter and vpon *examinacion* to reforme all those abuses so farr as in him was to do, whervpon the next morning following the sayd *Complainant* then Constable, and Hugh mead with others, shewing themselves greaved with the sayd shewes came to this *examinates* howse bringing with them *certeine* vnrule & disordered persons (as they termed them) viz Iohn Smyth mathew Lancaster Robert Atwell *alias* Tanner and William Stott to be examined before this deponent, then mayor, whome they sayd to be setters forth or actors in the sayd shewes, desiring that this *examinat* would examine them who sett them on woorke, which was donne accordinglie by this *examinat* as may apeare by the *examinacions* herein *verbatim* sett downe, viz xix die Iunij Anno Domini 1607 *Examinacions* taken by me Alexander Towse mayor of Welles at the requestes of Iohn Hall Hugh mead and others greived by *accions* comitted in shewes made, by Southover men of Wells aforesayd vpon yesterdaie laste in the afternoone as followeth:

Iohn Smyth of Southover husbandman examined sayth that he Road on a horse with a board before him sawcer vpon yt and a hammer in his hand knocking therein like a pewterer and beeing asked who sett him on woorke, or gave advise to acte that pageant as they called yt sayth that many of the street comforted him, and set him on woorke, for meryment to do yt, but who in particuler by name he cannot tell./ Mathew Lancaster of Queenstreet of the same verderie of Southover husbandman likewise examined sayth, that he Road on a horse, deliuered to him in the backside of one Robert Tanner of Southouer by a boaye to him vnknown, and Road along with others in theyre merrimentes spinning of Worsted wooll of his owne accord because none other would performe, yt, but he neuer spunne woosted before that tyme, Robert Atwill *alias* Tanner of the same verderie likewise examined, denyeth to be any actor in the merrimentes other then Ryding on a horse of one Iohn Harman a myller, broughte into his howse by Walter Norman (as he thinketh) wheron he with one William Tarr Road acting and counterfeiting the vsurer & his scribe or Clarke to make bandes & this they dyd of themselves,

1/ diorders: for disorders

19/ verbatim: 2 minims in MS

22/ aforesayd: for aforesayd

24/ his: corrected from hit

25/ therein: corrected from thereon

32/ spinning: 5 minims in MS

William Stott of the same mendypp man, examined that he was no actor nor adviser in the setting forth of any of the merriments. These examinacions so taken by this examinat then Mayor, beeing not able to gather oute any further matter, from the sayd persons so examined, at that tyme, he this examinat dyd deferr the further hearing & examining of all, vntill such tyme, as Sir Iohn Rodney knight and Doctor Hayden two of his maiesties Iustices of the peace within the Comity of Somerset & inhabitantes in Wells aforesayd, with this examinat then mayor mighte altogether have the full examinacion thereof and as the parties grieved should thinke good to follow yt, Shortelie after which tyme the sayd Sir Iohn Rodney vnderstanding hereof sent for the sayd Iohn Hole, to knowe whither he had oughte else to saye, againste the sayd examinat or any other sayeng that yf he had that that then, he the sayd Sir Iohn Rodney with the sayd Deane, would ioyne with this examinat then mayor, and do them Iustice after which tyme this examinat hard no more complainte made by the sayd Complainant nor any other person grieved, but as this examinat was informed they the sayd Complainant and others greived went to the then Lord Buisshop of Bath and Welles, and to mr Hughes who were at London, and forsooke the sayd Sir Iohn Rodney the Deane and this examinat, then mayor. And this examinat sayth that the cause whie he deferred the matter, to be examined by Sir Iohn Rodney & the sayd Docter Hayden was, for that the sayd Sir Iohn Rodney had taken paines with him this examinat a little before this vppon the late Lord Buisshops lettres aboute the examinacion of some maygames and supposed misdemeanors within the sayd Cittie and therfor this sayd examinat thoughte yt good, that he should also ioyne with him, the sayd Sir Iohn Rodney in the further hearing and examining of the sayd later supposed abuses likewise, And this examinat sayth that diuers tymes during the taking of the examinacions before specefied the sayd Complainant Hoale moved to have the good behavior to be graunted against som of the sayd examinees which this examinat also deferred, and desired to be advised thereof

...

*Interrogatories for George Greenstreet, Gentleman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1 sheet 193

- 1 Inprimis were there not in and vppon the 3 day of May in the 5 yeare of his Maiesties Raigne, dyuers morrice daunces and maygames in the streetes of the

1/ examined: *for* examined sayth(?)

5/ examining: 5 minims in MS

8/ have: *corrected* from having

12/ that yf ... that that: *the third that is redundant*

17/ the then Lord ... Welles: *John Still, d. 26 February 1607/8*

17/ mr Hughes: *Thomas Hughes, JP named in the bill of complaint*

28/ graunted: 3 minims in MS

Cyty of Welles, and many people, beholding the same, were not you chosen to be Lord of the May that day, and soe termed and called, whie made choyse of you, or perswaded you therevnto, of what age were you at that time, who was your Ladie or so termed and called, and about what age was she at that time as you imagine or suppose

5

- 2 Item did not you and your sayd Ladie, amongst otheres daunce in the streetes of the City of Welles, the said 3 day of May, were not you and your Lady lifted vp above the ground to kisse together and did you not after wardes together with many otheres daunce before the Complaynantes dore <sup>^</sup>or<sup>1</sup> neere his howse in the street, and did not you and the rest of your company or some of them, then and there make a greate noyse with shoutinge whoping, and hallowinge and who willed you soe to doe

10

...

- 4 Item did not you with your said Ladie, and the rest or manie of your companie, in the eveninge of the same 3 daye of may about 10 of the clocke at night, daunce out of the Towne of Welles into East Welles, to the howse of Iohn Gilberte one of the defendantes, did you not ther drincke him vp a barrell of beere, or a greate quantyty, how many were then in your companie, as you remember or imagine, and what tyme of the night was it when your company was dessolved, and when you returned home to your howses:.

20

...

***Certified Copy of Defendants' Examinations*** PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 218\* (10 January) (Examination of George Greenstreet, gentleman, aged 28)

25

...

- 1 To the ffirste Interrogatory he sayth that vppon a sundaie in the monyth of maye and ffifth yeare of his maiesties Raiguel (whither the third daie in the Interrogatory mentioned he certenlie knoweth not) there were diuers morrice daunces or other dauncers and maygames in the streetes of Welles, and many people beholding the same/ which this deponent sawe between 7 and 9. of the Clock in thafternoone after he had been at supper and sayth that eyther that daie or som other sundaie or hollidaie after by a generall voyce of many people he this examinat was reported or termed to be theyre lord, but knowes not in particuler by [whose] whome he was chosen for that purpose and that the wiffe of one Edmund White in the bill mentioned was his ladie or so termed to be & that at that tyme he this examinat was aboute the age of xxvj yeares & that his sayd ladie was of thage of between 30 & 50 yeares as he thinketh

35

...

40

2/ whie: for whoe(?)

sheet 218v\*

- 2 To the second *Interrogatory* he sayth that he this *examinat* and his sayd Ladie vpon the daie in the *Interrogatory* mentioned dyd amongst others daunce in the streetes of the Cytie of Wells and that he and his sayd ladie were lifted vp above the ground to kisse togeather and that they afterwarde togeather with many others dyd daunce in the street before the doare of the *Complainant* and before the doares of moste men in the towne and that there was hollowing and hooping by some of the Companie but whither more before the Constables doore then any other mens he this *examinat* cannot depose/
- 3 To the Third *Interrogatory* he sayth that this *examinat* and his sayd ladie with many others men and theyre wives to the number of .30. or .40. Cooples the certen number he knoweth not daunced hand in hand towardes the Inn or tauerne in the *Interrogatory* mentioned vpon the sayd Third daie of Maye and sayth that the sayd companie dyd then and there drinke in wine to the valew of Nyne shillings or vpwardes And sayth that he having his sayd ladie <sup>^</sup>by the<sup>1</sup> hand at the doare of Edmund White, the *Complainant* then Constable goeing between the Wall & this *examinat*, he this *examinat* let go his hand to give the sayd Constable leave to go by him, but the sayd ladie sate downe and sayd that shee beeing sett at her owne doare would keep her sitting where vpon the Constable went from the wall towardes the Channell and so departed from this *examinat*, but whither he were afterwarde iustled, or who of the companie iustled him, he this *examinat* cannot depose
- 4 To the 4<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* he sayth that this *examinat* with his sayd ladie and the rest of the sayd companie in and vpon the sayd third daie <sup>^</sup>of Maye<sup>1</sup> dyd contynew on theyre dauncing in the streete vnto Est Wells to and beyond the howse of Iohn Gilbert in the *Interrogatory* mentioned, at whose doare they then dyd drinke but what quantetie this *examinat* knoweth not, and sayth that the companie was desolved before the daie lighte was gon
- ...

*Interrogatories for William Williams, alias Morgan, Gentleman*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 141 (24 January)

...

- 3 Item were there [not] in and vpon the 14<sup>th</sup> day of may in the yeare aforesaid beinge the ascension day a great multitude of people assembled togeather in the said Cytie of Welles [in armes] <sup>^</sup>furnished<sup>1</sup> with ensignes, drummes, shott

4/ the daie ... mentioned: 3 May 1607

20/ sate: t written over y



pikes bowes arrowes or other weapons with morrice daunces and other shewes  
 and how many doe *yow* thincke or haue heard were soe assembled as actors  
 and spectators, whoe was Captaine or Leader of the said <sup>Λ</sup>comanie so  
 assembled<sup>1</sup> [armed men], how longe contynued the said Company together  
 the same day vndissolved, were [not] *yow* one of the same Company [of armed  
 men], in what place or Office were *yow* emongst them, how and with what  
 furniture served *yow*, to what end or for what cause were *yow* soe <sup>Λ</sup>furnished<sup>1</sup>  
 [in armes], & at whose comaund appointment or direction, whoe defrayed  
 the chardge of the powder that *yow* and others spent at that and other tymes  
 before and after in such and the like shewes, and how much powder was there  
 soe spent by *yow*, or any others, as *yow* know or haue heard.

...

- 6 Item were [not] *yow* in and vppon the 15. 16. & 17 daies of Iune in the yeare  
 aforesaid or vppon some or one of them together with many other people  
 an actor or beholder of the seuerall shewes & representacions then shewed  
 acted and performed in the open streetes within the said Cytie of Welles at  
 the severall goinges of the people of Tuckarstreet highstreete and Chamberlaine  
 streete to the Churchale there; what place or Office had *yow* in the said  
 shewes or any of them, were [not] *yow* or the greatest part of the company  
 assembled in and vppon those & euery of those dayes called together by the  
 sound of a drum or drumes.

...

*Examination of William Williams, alias Morgan, Gentleman*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 133v (26 January)

25

...

- 3 To the <sup>Λ</sup>third Interrogatory this *defendant* saiethe That<sup>1</sup> in and vppon  
 Assention day mencyned in this Interrogatory there were people assembled  
 together (but theire number this *defendant* cannot expresse, but gesseth them  
 to bee aboute xxx or thereaboutes) within the said Citty of wells betwixte  
 the howers of one & foure in the afternoone of the same day furnished with  
<sup>1</sup>a<sup>1</sup>drume[s], and a fewe shott only as this *defendant* remembrethe, with Morrice  
 daunces, but howe manye were then assembled as actors and spectors together  
 he knoweth not, and the Captayne or leader of the Company soe assembled  
 was [as hee thincketh] one Edward Cary, and the sayd company contynued  
 together vndissolued vntill it was four of the Clock in thafternoon of the same  
 day, in which [shewe or] sporte this [s(.)] *defendant* was on and supplied the  
 place of an ordinarye man, without title or office, and serued with a fowling  
 peece, and thende and cause of such his furnishing was onlye for honest sport

& pastyme, wherunto hee was not comaunded appoynted or directd by anye, the chardge of the powder by this *defendant* then spent was by him self borne, but howe the rest was borne this *defendant* doethe not knowe neither doeth hee vnderstand howe in any other shewes either before or after that tyme the same Chardges were defrayed or borne, neither howe much pouder was spent either by him self or anye others cann he deliuer any certaynty, either of knowledge or report./

...

sheets 134-4v\*

10

...

- 6 To the sixt Interrogatory This *defendant* saiethe That vppon one of the dayes in this Interrogatory specified, but the certaynty of whither this *defendant* doeth not remember <sup>^</sup>yet thinketh hee it was the xvij of Iune in this Interrogatory mencyoned<sup>l</sup>, togeather with diuerse other people, <sup>^</sup>he was<sup>l</sup> an Actor in a sporte or pastyme representing the history of St George acted and perfourmed in thopen streetes within the sayed Citty of wells in the goeing of the people vnto [of] Chamberlayne street to the Churchale there, but had not then vnto his remembrance any speciall place or office therein assigned him, other then as a Comon attendaunte therein; But I in the sayed shoue or assembly wherein this *defendant* was hee or the moste parte of the same were called togeather by the sound of a drume this *defendant* doeth not remember./

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...

*First General Series of Interrogatories for Complainant's Witnesses*

25

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 80\* (5 May)

...

- 4 Item did the said Edmond white, and other of the deffendants, or any & which of them by name, on euery or anie & how manie Sabboth[.] dayes in the moneth of May <sup>^</sup>and Iune<sup>o</sup>l in the said [moneth of May] fifth yeare of his maiesties said raigne, assemble themselues together in the said Citty of wellis, and had they or anie & which of them then and there anie weapons, gunns trompetes, Auncientes, Ensignes, or drumms vppon or about them, yf yea then what weapon or weapones, drum or drumms, trompetes, or Auncientes had they then & there vppon or about them; did the said deffendants or any & which of them, then & there acte dyuers or anie maygames, Morrice daunces, Long daunces, Churchales, or pastymes, were not these maygames, daunces, or pastymes putt in execucion on all or some & how many of the Sabboth dayes or other holydayes in the said moneth of May <sup>^</sup>and Iune<sup>o</sup>l in the tymes

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of devine seruice & sermons then & there said & preached; And did the Complainant being then Constable of welles aforesaid by the authority & duety of his place reproue the said defendantes or some of them for theyr said abuses & misgouernment in the said Towne <sup>^</sup> And did not the said deffendantes or some of them thervpon then & there abuse the Complainant with reprochful speeches or with contemptuous or violent behavior<sup>1</sup>; And dyd he then & there apprehend or Comitt Certain minstrelles vnto prison for theyr then misbehauior, and were not the said minstrelles enlarged out of the said prison by the meanes of the said deffendantes Iames Godwyn william watkins, & Edmond white, or of some & which of them without the priuitie or Consent of the Complainant./

...

- 6 Item in and vppon the Tenth of may in the ffifth yeare aforesaid being Sondag were there a great multitude of people assembled in the streetes of welles aforesaid, about what tyme of the day did they Come together & how long Contynued they vndissolued, with Trompetes, drums, Auncientes, gunshott, powder, or some suche warrlyke munition & with showes & representacions, how much gunnpowder was then shott & spent thesame day, about what tyme, And were there not morrice dauncers then and there dauncing with naked rapiers & daggers in their handes vpp & downe the streetes; And was there not then Carried about the streetes a boord wheron was paynted the picture of a Calfe, who Carried the said picture, what was the meaning or significacion therof, vppon what occasion was it so paynted and Carried about, and what person or persons did thesame painted boord with the picture of a Calfe represent as you know or haue Credibly heard, how many & which of the defendantes were then in Companie, and who was the leader or Captaine therof. were manie people kept from Church & devine seruice on thesaid x<sup>th</sup> day of may. declare at large the Circumstances of the pointes of this Interrogatory./

- 7 Item were there not in & vppon the xiiij<sup>th</sup> day of may being Ascension day in the ffifth yeare aforesaid a great nomber of people assembled together in the streets of welles with armes, Trompetes, droms, Auncientes, pikes, musketes, Caliuers, & other gunnshott, bowes & arrowes, or suche like wartlike munition with morrice daunces, how muche gunnpowder was then & there spent in your estimacion, who was the Captayne or leader of the same bond of armed men, how manie persons in your estimacion were then & there Assembled, were anie & which & how manie of the defendantes then present at [&] or<sup>1</sup> in thesaid Companie of armed men, and who by name and at what tyme of thesame day did they begynne & how long Contynued they thesame bond of armed men in or about the streetes aforesaid before they were dissolued, and did the Complainant oftentimes on the Sabboth dayes in the moneths

of may or Iune ma[r]ke searche or fynde manie or anie persons in the Tauernes or Alehouses there drinking in the tyme of devyne service which were then Come thither out of the Countrey parishes & Townes therabouts to behold thesaid shewes then & there made or to be made, and were not many women found by the Complainant in the tyme of devyne service preparing & addressing & making ready the said shewes in gardens or other places, and were not many kept from Church & devyne service euery Sabboth day or most of the Sabboth dayes in the said moneths of may and Iune who prepared & made ready some shewes as aforesaid. declare the Circumstances &c./

- 8 Item in or about the seventeenth day of may in the ffifth yeare aforesaid being Sunday in the Evening of the same day when the Complainant then Constable was about to Charge the watche for the Towne aforesaid; was he disturbed therein by anie person or persons then & there Assembled & by whom, did thesaid defendant Edmond Cary who was then termed a Captaine, and william Peters his lieutenant then & there in disturbance of the Complainant in Charging of the said watche, hallow or sound anie Trompet or Trompetes at or neere the high Crosse there, And did the Complainant in the Kings maiesties name then & there require thesayd Carye, Peters, and the rest of their said Companie to departe euery one to their lodging, what Aunswer or repleye did they or anie of them make therunto, And assoone as the Complainant then turned his back from them, did not they neuerthelesse or some of them & which of them by name in Contempt of the Complainant sound their said Trompetes or Trompet & make a great noyse or hallowing & hooping as aforesaid, and how dyd thesaid Carye & his Companie then & there behaue themselues after they were so forbydden as aforesaid; declare at large the Circumstances & whole truth of your knowledge concerning the pointes of this Interrogatory

...

- 10 Item were manie persons likewyse assembled in welles aforesaid in or about the one & thirtith day of may in the ffifth yeare aforesaid being Trinity sonday, by beating of a drum or drumms, and how manie drumms were beaten presently after dynner thesame day, were thesaid deffendants & dyuers other persons and who by name in armes with ensignes, shott, gunnpowder, or suche lyke warrlike municion, and what weapons had they & euery of them then & there vppon or about them, who did beat the said drum or drumms, were not manie people deteyned the same day from Church & from devyne service & sermon there by meanes of the shewes which then were eyther made or to be made; By whose meanes or procurement were all or anie of the shewes aforesaid made and people assembled in armes as aforesaid, did anie of

the defendantes & which of them by name procure, encourage, or geue Countenaunce to the same or to anie of them; did the said Alexander Towse then mayor Leonard Crosse, *william* Bull, Iames Godwyn, and *william* Euans, or any and which of them stand & behold the said Assemblies, mustering, & other shewes which then & there were made as aforesaid, declare theyr names  
5 that soe beheld the same as aforesaid to your remembrance

- 11 Item did the Choristers of the Cathedrall Church of *welles* aforesaid or some of them in their Church habites or vestimentes <sup>1</sup> or in white linnen resembling ye said vestimentes<sup>1</sup> in or about the seventeenth day of Iune in the fffith yeare  
aforesaid ride on horsback before one who was Carryed vppon mens shoulder<sup>es</sup>  
to represent the goddesse Diana, through the market place or some of the  
streetes aforesaid; singing certaine sacred hymnes or Anthems which were vsed  
to be sung in thesaid Church and what hymnes songs or Anthems were they  
that were so sung, and vppon what day & in which of the shewes were they  
so sung, and what are the names of the Choristers that so dyd sing, and who  
procured intreated perswaded or advised them or anie of them so to ryde in  
theyr vestimentes and sing; did the said mr Towse then maior, Iames Godwin,  
*william* Bull, Leonard Crosse, *William* Evans and others of the defendantes  
aboue named or how manie & which of them, then & there accompanie or  
goe after the said goddesse Diana & Choristers so ryding & singing towardes  
the Churchale there, <sup>1</sup> and then accompanie them back againe soe singing  
throughe the street or markt place<sup>1</sup> and how manie & what other shewes  
were then vsed in the said streetes on the same day as you know or haue heard;  
And were there the same day also manie men in armes in thesaid streetes,  
what were theyr names & what armor or weapons had they or anie of them  
then & there vppon or about them; did thesaid *william* watkins, as a whifler  
with a staff, make roome for the passage of the same shewes when the queristers  
rode as aforesaid, declare your knowledge herin, and were there not great  
multitudes of people gathered together in *welles* which Came out of the  
Countrie ther aboutes, for what intent Came they thither, what dyd they when  
they were so gathered as aforesaid: declare the whole truthe of your knowledge  
Concerning the severall poyntes of this Interrogatory.

...

sheet 80v

...

30. Item ... do you know or haue you heard, what person or persons by name did divulge, publish, or scatter abroad the sayd Libell last mencioned, or any Copy or Copyes therof, or any part therof, by reading singing saying or

39/ the sayd Libell last mencioned: "Tell me of Flesh"; see p 271, l.19- p 272, l.22 and Appendix 5

repeting the same or anie part therof, or by wryting, geving, lending, or scattering anie Copey or Copes, or any part of a Copey therof, declare theyr name or names that so published [the same], read, gaue, lent, or scattered the same and to whom, and to how many persons by name, And whether was the same so published as aforesayd synce the said Assises holden at Taunton as aforesayd./

...

40. Item whether did the complainant in or about the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> day of May in the ffifth yeare <sup>1</sup>of his Maiesties sayd Raigne<sup>1</sup> [aforesaid], read or publishe a Proclamacion or a part or Clause of a proclamacion prohibiting vnlawfull games & pastimes to be vsed on Sabboth dayes. And was the same or anie part therof read or published in the presence of Alexander Towse then Mayor & dyuers others of the deffendants, vpon what occasion was the said proclamacion or anie part therof then read or published. And ys not thys proclamacion now shewed vnto you, the same or the like proclamacion that was so read or published. Dyd thesaid Towse then Mayor at that tyme blame the Complainant for the same, saying that the Complainant was too busy, or wordes to that effect, And dyd he not then also say, that yt was lawfull to vse suche games & pastymes vpon anie Sabboth day so that they were not vsed in tyme of devyne seruice or sermon, or wordes to suche effect. And dyd he not also seeme to allow of the said disordered shewes & pastymes./

...

44. Item whether did not the said queristers of the said cathedrall church being in white habites vpon or about the 16<sup>th</sup> day of Iune in ye fift yeare aforesaid at such time as certaine shewes were presented & acted for the highe street of welles aforesaid goe along ye markett place & the said highe street of wells to a churchale at St Cutbertes churchyard in welles aforesaid & backe againe singing such himmes & songs as are before in the xj<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory mencoed And did not some (...) of ye deffendants and how manie of them and whoe by name or names accompanie them thoroughe the said highe street & markett place to ye said churchale & back againe the same men often cryeng & which of them cried Hey for highe streete; declare the whole circumstances of your said shewes & your soe goeing & whoe proc(...) for (...)ng

sheet 81

...

46. Item did ye said Peeters againe <sup>1</sup>of the same Sonday being the .3. day of may aforesaid<sup>1</sup> beate vp a drumme after the then complainant Commaunded to the Contrary in the said streetes in Welles aforesaid and were there manie

28/ mencoed: for mencioned; abbreviation mark missing

38/ the then complainant: for the then Constable now complainant(?)

people assembled together and their minstrells or Taborers playing before them vpon the same third day of May in seuerall Companies or some one companie And did ye *complainant* in your hearing, or to your knowledge then againe require the said minstrells or dauncers to Cease and giue ouer their playing & dauncing telling them it was against his *Maiesties* proclamacion, 5 Or words to the like effecte, And did the said *william* Watkins one of the now *defendants* in your hearing or to your knowledge then and there say to the Constable the now *complainant* that he lyed like a knaue or words to the like effecte And did the said Watkins say that the said Minstrelles & dauncers should not giue ouer, did not the said Constable the now *plainant* offer to 10 lay hands vpon one of the said minstrells to haue him to prison for his said contempt, And did the said Mr Watkins thervpon tell the said constable that the said constable should haue the said Minstrells fidle or Crowd yf he would, but his person he should not haue, or words to the like effecte, were not the said Minstrells then rescued from the said Constable, soe *yat* he Could 15 not haue them to prison By whome, or by whose meanes were they or anie of them soe rescued; did not the said Companie assembled then & there make a great noyse with shouting, hooping, & hallowing when the said Minstrelles were soe rescused and *which* and how manie of the *defendants* were then in the said Companie at ye time of ye *said* rescue 20

...

*Examination of Robert Hole of London, Yeoman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1 sheets 24-4v\* (*Taken 10 May on complainant's first general series of interrogatories*) 25

...

- 11 To the xj Interrogatory This deponent saieth That hee doethe knowe That in or aboute the seaventhe daye of Iune in the fyfte yeere of our Soueraigne Lord the kinges *Maiestye* that nowe is foure of the Choristers of the *sayed* Cathedrall Church of wells in white resembling the vestmentes of the Church, (but not 30 or in a Coatche) did goe before one that was carryed vppon mens shoulders <sup>^</sup>or in a Coatche to represent the Godess Diana, thoroughe the Markett place and streetes of the *sayed* Cittye, singinge certayne sacred Hymnes or Anthems *which* this deponent hathe knowen to bee vsed to be sounged in the *sayed* Cathedrall Church of wells, the *which* Hymnes or Anthems he cannot now 35 expresse but thinckethe they were made vppon som parte of the Psalmes of the Prophett Dauid, *which* Hymnes or [some] Anthems were sounged [that] on boathe the dayes when the shewes were made for Heighestreete and

28/ seaventhe: for seaventeenthe(?)

31/ horsebacke): square bracket used as closing parenthesis

35/ Anthes(.): edge of page crumbled

Chamberlayne streete, the *which* Choristers names were *William Beaumonte*,  
*William Nicholls*, *Toby Brookyns*, & *Richard Cook* was the fourthe of them  
 as this deponent thinckethe [but by Whom(.)] they were procured soe to goe  
 and singe <sup>1</sup> on one of the dayes by *william Evans defendant* and thother by  
*George Greenstreet*:<sup>1</sup> [this deponent knoweth not:] Att *which* tyme hee thincketh  
 that the then Maior of the *sayed* Citty and some others of the principall Cittizens  
 did goe after or before the *sayed* person representinge the Goddess *Diana*, and  
 soe wente singinge vnto the Churcheale, and from thence agayne retourned  
 in the same manner singinge and continewinge the *sayed* shewes through  
 the street and market place. On[e] *which* daye [*which* daye] and at the same  
 tyme of the *sayed* shewe for Heighe streete this deponent alsoe knoweth that  
 ther was a Page<sup>te</sup> carryed by men or weomen, and there on greate stoare of  
 Plate of all sortes, and alsoe a Tente carryed by men or weomen [att] and  
 [thereof therof] a man therein playeing on a Shakebute, thone of *which* twoe  
 shews were caryed by persons in white but whether of them hee knoweth not,  
 And alsoe that daye there was a Man Gyante and a woeman Gyante | And  
 alsoe a man on horsback <sup>1</sup> in armor with sword & speare<sup>1</sup> representinge St  
 George and the Counterfeite of a dragon with a man within him that carryed  
 the same and <sup>1</sup> they boath<sup>1</sup> represented <sup>1</sup> or Acted<sup>1</sup> the fight betweene the  
 dragon & St George/ [The *which*] And further vnto this Interrogatory hee  
 deposeth not sauinge that the same daye there were greate number of people  
 bothe of the towne and Conetrye that then followed the same shewes and  
 beheld the same, but that there were anye men in armor, or with anye weapons  
 sauinge the *sayed* person representinge St George this deponent doethe not  
 remember./

...

sheet 25v\*

...

43. To the xliijth Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe  
 that foure or fyve of the Choristers of the *sayed* Cathedrall Church of Wells  
 in white habites vppon or aboute the xvj daye of Iune in the fyfte yeare of his  
 Maiestye, at suche tyme as certayne shewes were acted for the heighe streete  
 of the *said* Citty did goe a longe the markett place and the heighe streete of  
 Wells to a Churcheale in St Cuthbertes Churchyearde in Wells aforesayed and

p 339, l.38-p 340, l.1/ boathe the dayes ... streete: 16-17 June 1607

3/ deponent: corrected from defendant

10-11/ On[e] which ... streete: 16 June 1607

15/ were: for was

15/ caryed: corrected from carred

16/ Gyante: catchword on recto, not repeated on verso



backe agayne singinge suche Hymnes and songs as were aboute the same tyme vsed to bee songe in the *sayed* Cathedrall Church of Wells, the *defendants* Edmonde white Iohn Rodwaye and manye others accompanyege them thoroughe the *sayed* heighe streete and Markett place vnto the Churchale And further vnto this *Interrogatory* hee <sup>1</sup>saieth [Cannot depose saving] that the *defendant* George Greenestreete did earnestlye speake and labor vnto the *Master* of the *sayed* Choristers to suffer them to goe to the purpose *aforesayed*, beinge verye vnwillinge soe to *permitte* them, And further then he hathe before deposed this deponent saithe not./

...

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*Examination of John Yarde, Haberdasher* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 28\* (*Taken 13 May on complainant's first general series of interrogatories*)

...

- 4 To the iiij *Interrogatory* This deponent saithe That hee doethe knowe that on a Sabboathe, <sup>1</sup>daye beinge the thirde of Maye in the fyfte yeare of his Maiestyes Raigne that nowe is and some Sabaothe dayes after the *sayed* [fyfte] <sup>1</sup>thirde of Maye, the *sayed defendants* Thomasyne White wyfe of the *sayed* Edmonde white, Iohn Rodwey, Oliuer Martyne *alias* Ieames, walter Smythe Stephen Millerd Vertue Hunte Thomas Peeters Iohn Gilbert George Greenestreete Edward Carey *william* Stott, and manye other persons which this deponent cannot name, did assemble them selues together, manye of them hauinge weapons, some holberdes, some Qualyvers, some muskettes some Trompettes, one with an Ensigne, and <sup>1</sup>an other with<sup>1</sup> a drume, and did then and there Acte diuerse Maygames morryce daunces Longdaunces Churchales & pastymes; Vppon which shewes made on the *sayed* Sabaothe on the thirde of Maye *aforesayed* this deponent knowethe, that the Complaynant beinge then Constable did accordinge vnto the duetye of his place reprove the *sayed defendants* and others that Acted the same, for the *sayed* abuses, and did then and there apprehend or committe certayne minstrells to prison for their then misbehavior, whoe were enlarged thence by the meanes of the *sayed defendants* Ieames Godwyne *william* Watkyns and Edmond white without the priuie or Consente of the Complaynant as this deponent verilye beleivethe:/ And further vnto this *Interrogatory* This deponent saith not [sauinge that]//

35

...

- 8 To the viij *Interrogatory* This deponent saithe That hee doethe knowe That

8-9/ And further ... saithe not: *apparently added at the end of the paragraph and between the lines*

24/ one: *corrected from some*

29/ *defendants*: *written over another word*

in or aboute the xvijth daye of Maye in ffifte yeare[s] of his Maiestyes Raigne beinge Sondaye, in the Eveninge of the same daye, when the Complaynant was <sup>1</sup>about<sup>1</sup> to Chardge the wathe for the sayed towne hee was disturbed therein by Edwarde Carye, (whoe was then tearmed a Captayne) and william Peeter (tearmed his Liuetenaunte) with diuerse others accompanyenge them, and at or neare the Heighe Crosse there, after the sayed Constables had willed them in peaceable manner to departe <sup>1</sup>&<sup>1</sup> to cease theire noyse and disorderly troublinge him in the chardginge of the sayed wathe, they did not withstandinge with lowde holloweinge and soundinge of Trumpettes continewe the same, and from thence contineweinge suche theire noyse wente vpp vnto the Bushoppes Pallace, and there aboute an hower afterwarde contynewed the same and then departed: And further vnto this Interrogatory hee saiethe not./

...

sheet 28v\*

...

- 10 To the x Interrogatory This deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe That there were manye persons assembled togeather in the sayed Cittye of Wells aforesayed on Trynitye Sundaye in this Interrogatory mencyned, after dynner by the soundinge of a drumbe by one Iohn Rodweye seruante vnto the defendant Edmonde White, and the same daye after Eveninge prayer many persons assembled and gathered togeather <sup>1</sup>before<sup>1</sup> by the soundinge of one drumbe by the sayed Iohn Rodwey and an other drumbster named as this deponent remembrethe [by] Thomas Paytye, some of them beinge furnished with gunns or shott and poudre, others <sup>1</sup>with<sup>1</sup> halberdes, and one with an Ensigne: Att which Eveninge prayer this deponent is well assured that there were a greate number of people lesse then vsuallie were wonte, and thinckethe verly the cause of theire absence was in respecte of the preparacion made for the shewe of the same Eveninge: In the the which shewes then made and contynewed after the sayed Eveninge prayer, the sayed Alexander Towse then beinge Maior for the sayed Cittye, after supper came vnto this deponentes howse, and in a roome where hee mighte conuenientlye and priuatlye see the same, did then and there a while behold it and then departed And further vnto this Interrogatory hee deposethe not./

...

1/ in: for in the

4/ Captayne]: square bracket used as closing parenthesis

5/ Liuetenaunte]: square bracket used as closing parenthesis

30/ the the: dittography

32/ deponentes: corrected over defendantes

*Examination of Henry Baron, Linen Draper* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
 sheets 30v-1\* (*Taken 15 May on complainant's first general series of interrogatories*)

13. To the xiiij Interrogatory This deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe that  
 on the daye when the Inhabitauntes of South<sup>Λ</sup> ouer<sup>1</sup> streete of the sayed Cittyte 5  
 wente to the Churche ale there were manye people assembled together in  
 streetes of the same Cittyte by beateinge of drumes or a drume, to the number  
 of 300 persons as this deponent verylie thinckethe: At which tyme Thomas  
 Byson did ride aboute the streetes of the same disguised representinge a  
 habberdasher with a powche at his girdle havinge a hatt in one hand and a 10  
 brushe in the other brushing a hatt as hee roade hauing alsoe old hattes at his  
 girdle, & sayenge as hee roade whoe will buye anye hattes or Cappes, but that  
 hee sayed hee had as good hattes to sell as Mr yard or wordes to that effect this  
 deponent knowethe not, or that hee clapped his hand on his pouch when he  
 spake: And then alsoe Mathewe Lancaster did ryde likewise disguised in 15  
 woemans apparrell astryde on a horse representinge a worsted spinner,  
 carryenge before him a Turne or spyning wheele turning it rounde aboute as  
 hee roade (but that hee was asked whose woole hee spanne, or that he sayed or  
 sange Hole Hole, or Hone Hone, or such lik wordes this deponent knowethe  
 not]: In the which showe alsoe the defendant Iohn Smithe alsoe roade 20  
 disguised on horsback, representinge a Pewterer, Carryenge athwart the sayed  
 horse a borde, and a hammer in one hande and a sawcer in the other beateinge  
 the same, sayenge will you buy I anye Pewter (but that hee sayed hee had as  
 good pewter to sell as Mr Meade, or to the like effect this deponent knoweth  
 not] yet remembreth that hee had a pyente pott and a scymmer at his girdle: 25  
 Then and there alsoe there were twoe persons that roade disguised on one  
 horse face to face, (whose names this deponent remembreth not] representinge  
 a Mercer, and carryeng a payer of scales or weightes betweene them in theire  
 handes and one frayle betwixte them with some trashe in it, Cryenge whoe  
 will buy any spices or raysons, (but that they sayed that they had as good 30  
 spices or raysons to sell as Humfraye Palmer this deponent knowethe not] And  
 at the same tyme the defendant Roberte Attwell, (and Torr as he thincketh alsoe]  
 then & there did ryde disguised vppon one horse, face to face, representinge  
 a vsurer and a Scryvenor, carryenge betweene them a deske & a paper book  
 and bagges filled with trashe, but that they or either of them sayed or sange 35  
 that they were to lende money vnto the decayed Clothier, pewterer,  
 habberdasher and Grocer <sup>Λ</sup> & the sayed Scryvenor to mak bondes for the same<sup>1</sup>

5-6/ on the daye ... ale: 18 June 1607

20, 25, 27, 31/ not]: square bracket used as closing parenthesis

27/ remembreth: for remembrethe; abbreviation mark missing

32/ alsoe]: square bracket used as closing parenthesis

this deponent remembreth not]. Whome the *sayed* disguised persons did  
 intend to represente this deponent knoweth not, but in his vnderstandinge  
 and as he coniectured vppon the actinge of the same, it was meante and  
 intended by the Actors, or setters forth of those sportes that the disguised  
 haberdasher should represent Iohn yarde, the [woem] woeman disguised with  
 the wheele, the wyif of the Complaynant, the disguised pewterer Hughe Meade,  
 and the disguised Grocer, other the *sayed* Humfrey Palmer or some other  
 Grocer of the same Citty, And the disguised vsurer, one Mr Humfraye Willys,  
 and hathe hearde by report of others, that the foresayed persons were soe by  
 them alsoe reputed or intended to bee represented in theire vnderstandings  
 and opynions And further vnto this Interrogatory this deponent [saith]e  
 '[d(...)]' cannot depose.

...

*Examination of Daniel Tuthill, Linen Draper* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
 sheet 35v\* (*Taken 22 May on complainant's first general series of interrogatories*)

- 18 ...  
 To the xvij Interrogatory This [defendant] 'deponent' saith That hee doeth  
 knowe that on or aboute the xxvth daye of Iune in the *sayed* vth year of his  
 Maistye there were by the beatinge of a drume or drumes assembled together,  
 and then and there a disguised person (whome this deponent hearde crediblye  
 reported to bee the *sayed* william Gamadge in this Interrogatory mencyned)  
 roade thoroughe the streetes of the *sayed* Cittye carryenge a thawrte on the  
 horse twoe bordes, whereof one was paynted with the pictures of a 'two' men  
 and a woeman in the middeste betweene them hauinge [paynted] in one of  
 her handes a hatt, payntede and a brushe in the other, with holes cutt or  
 boarded in the lower parte of the *sayed* boarde, the which disguised person as  
 hee roade did then trundle a litle bowle or ball vppon one of the *sayed* bordes  
 towardes the *sayed* holes and pictures, and did then saye He holes for a Crowne,  
 and some other in the companye but by whose direcion, or whoe this deponent  
 knowethe not] replied thereunto He holes nor [in] 'within' a yard, or in a

p 343, l.35-p 344, l.1/ but that ... not]: opening parenthesis omitted; square bracket used as closing parenthesis

12/ cannot: can apparently inserted between cancellation and not

12/ depose: d written over virgule

20/ together: some phrase such as a great number of persons has been omitted

22/ mencyned]: square bracket used as closing parenthesis

23/ a thawrte: for athwarte

24/ a 'two': a should have been cancelled

24/ men: corrected from man

30-1/ but by ... not]: opening parenthesis omitted; square bracket used as closing parenthesis

31/ yard: y written over another letter

yarde for a Crowne. By which pictures and wordes this deponent verylye beleivethe, that the Actors and setters forth of the same shewes did entende meane and represente, the Complaynant, the wyf of Iohn yearde dwellinge at the signe of the Crowne, & by the picture of one of the *sayed* paynted men, Hughe Meade whome the *sayed* picture much resembled, and soe were the same pictures and wordes by the comon vnderstandinge of the people and reporte construed and taken to signifye and represente And further vnto this *Interrogatory* he cannot depose./

...

*Examination of James Gaytes of Stoke St Michael, Clothier*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheets 36v-7\* (*Taken 27 May on complainant's first general series of interrogatories*)

...

- 23 To the xxij<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* This deponent saiethe That aboute whitsonyde(.) laste was Twelvemonethes this deponent beinge presente at the howse of William Weste in Wells did heare Olyuer Martyne alias leames hauinge diuerse persons gathered aboute him in the open yearde of the same howse beinge an Inne, <sup>1</sup>beginne singe and repeate [the Libell] vnto them the Libell or rymes nowe shewed vnto him in this his *Examina*(...) begininge My louinge freindes &c: at the singing whereof when he hadd songe a good parte this deponent prayed him [no]to forbear his furthe(.) contynuaunce therein, tellinge him it was a slaunderouse lybell and a thinge made to drawe the honeste reputacion of sundry persons into questyon, or to some suche purpose: The *sayed* Olyuer Martyne alias I leames therwyppon grewe into [the] foule tearmes callinge this deponent at his pleasure, biddeinge therewith, <sup>1</sup>with reuerence be it spoken a turde in this deponentes teethe and all those that tooke Holes parte. And thereon the *said* Oliuer beinge prepared to have goen forward with his *sayed* songe vnto his heares, the Goodwyf of the howse came and founde faulte with him, tellinge him that diuerse of her guesstes were offended therewith and prayeing him not to *proceade* further therein, hee spared his further goeing forward. whoe they were that were his heares this deponent knowethe not And further vnto this *Interrogatory* he Cannot depose./

...

*Examination of John Gorway, Clothier* PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 37v\* (*Taken 27 May on complainant's first general series of interrogatories*)

...

- 14 To the xiiij<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* This deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe That Alexander Towse then Maior of the *sayed* Cittye at the foresayed shewe of Tradesmen, accompanied with william warkyns Edward wadham Henry ffoster

and *william* Attwell did beholde the sayed disguysed persons representinge the sayed tradesmen as the same persons came rydinge towards the Church howse: Att which Church howse the sayed Mr Towse and the sayed Company with him and a greate number of persons besides did then and there suppe, the sayed disguised persons alightinge from their horbackes at the Church <sup>5</sup> <sup>1</sup>yarde<sup>1</sup> wall, and goeing into the Church howse in their habites and there alsoe suppinge: And after supper was ended the sayed disguised persons, gott them selves agayne on their horse backes, and contynewed their sayed shewes [of the] <sup>1</sup>a<sup>1</sup> foresayed in manner before expressed, then ridinge towards the heighe Crosse, the foresayed Mr Towse and the foresayed persons of his <sup>10</sup> Companye (& manye others whome this deponent nowe remembreth not) beholdinge the same and followeing them thither, and [frome] <sup>1</sup>a<sup>1</sup> sayenge and beholdinge them at<sup>1</sup> the heighe Crosse [contyneweing the same vpp the streete ended the sayed Maior and Company departed to their howses] <sup>15</sup> actinge the shewes of the sayed tradesmen vsurer and Scryvenor and vsinge the like speaches and gestures before deposed, and the same ended the foresayed Maior & Companye retourned to their howses & the sayed Actors alsoe <sup>1</sup>a<sup>1</sup> departed<sup>1</sup> And further vnto this Interrogatory [this dep] hee Cannot depose./

...

*Examination of Christopher Croker, Clothier* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
 sheets 38v-9\* (*Taken 28 May on complainant's first general series of  
 interrogatories*)

- ...
5. To the v<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe that <sup>25</sup> on a Sabbaothe daye beinge on or aboute the the thirde daye of Maye in the fyfte yeare of his Maiestyes Raigne [hauinge for their disorderlye], one Mayne and his sonne minstrells and on wyndgod a Tabberor hauinge ben committed for their disorderlye and open playeing in the streetes of the sayed Citty of Wells on the sayed Sabbaothe, did the same daye presentlye after their <sup>30</sup> enlardgment continewe[d] their like disorderlye playenge vpp and downe the sayed streetes by the procurement and encouradgment of Edmund whi(. .) [and] William watkins and Iohn Gilberte, manye people beinge then by the beatinge of [a] drumbes (not fewer as this Defendant verilye beleiveth then <sup>35</sup> foure or fyve hundreth persons) assembled, Thomas Peters then seruant to the defendant vertue Hunte beatinge thone of the sayed drummbes & Iohn ward seruant vnto the defendant Stephen Millward, then beating thother: And

4/ and: a *written over d*

5/ horbacker: *for horsbackes*

11/ not]: *square bracket used as closing parenthesis*

26/ the the: *ditto-graphy*

34/ drumbes: *corrected from drumbe*

34/ Defendant: *for Deponent*

35/ persons]: *square brackets used as closing parenthesis*

soone after the Release of the *sayed* persons Edmund white Thomasyne his wyef, Iohn Gilberte, Stephen Millwarde George Greenestreete *defendants* accompanied with diuerse others did then and there drume vpp and downe the *streetes* of the *sayed* Cityte, whome the Complaynant had then admonished and forbidden to play & daunce because it was then the Sabbaothe: The  
 5 which Companye contineuinge theire disordered playenge and dauncinge with muche hooping & halloweing, when they came neare the Complaynantes doare, the *sayed* Edmund white did then will the reste of the Companye to hoope sayeinge hoope, roagues hallowe roagues, hee him self then vehemenlye hooping hallowinge and leaping in his dauncinge, there beinge then aboute  
 10 a hundreth persons that daunced hand in hand towards the signe of the George: where (as this deponent hath crediblye heard) they | did euerye of them drinck a pynte or quart of wyne, the certayntye of whither hee cannot declare: The contynuaunce of which dauncinge was frome aboute fyve of the Clock vntill it was betweene ix and x of the Clocke, the moste of them that  
 15 then soe daunced being persons about the age of [xl] 40. or 50 yeares And further vnto this Interrogatory hee Cannot depose sauinge that hee knowethe that the Complainant did twyce that Sabboathe daye Complayne vnto Mr Alexander Towse then Maior of the *sayed* City of the disorders committed./

- 20  
 6. To the sixt Interrogatory This Deponent saieth That hee doethe knowe that on the tenth daye of Maye in fyfte yeare of his Maiestyes Raigne aforesayed beinge sondaye there were greate number of people assembled in the *streetes* of wells aforesayed, with drumbes<sup>12/</sup> & an<sup>12/</sup> auntyente, gunns, and powder, Morryce dauncers then dauncinge vpp and downe the *streetes* with naked rapiers and  
 25 daggers in their hands: At which tyme this defendant hath crediblye heard that ther was a [paynted caulf] a boarde then carryed whereon was paynted the picture of a Caulf, carryed by william Peeters, the which as this deponent did likewise heare was carryed vppon this occasyon, There being sett vpp  
 30 aboute the tyme aforesayed a paynted Maypoale, the wyef of Iohn yarde fyndinge faulte therewith, and sayenge <sup>12/</sup>as it was reported<sup>12/</sup> shee could not goe to the Churche because the paynted caulf stooode in her waye, it was thereon agreed that the picture of a Caulfe should be paynted on a board, which beinge  
 35 carryd in the foresayed shewe, or dauncinge, was by some of the gunners shott att and by them thereon sayed to bee killed, that thereon Mistris yarde might goe to the Churche: In which shewe the Captayne or leader was one Edward Carye,/ And further vnto this Interrogatory he Cannot depose./

12/ deponent: corrected from defendant

12/ heard: square bracket used as closing parenthesis

22/ fyfte: for the fyfte

26/ defendant: for deponent

- 7 To the vij Interrogatory This Defendant saiethe That hee doethe knowe That ther was in and vppon the xiiij daye of Maye beinge Ascension daye in the fyfte yeare of his Maiestyes Raigne a greate number of people assembled together in the streetes of wells with armor Trompettes drumbes Auncientes pykes muskettes Caliuers and other gunshott, holbertes and Bills, with Morrice daunces, Edward Carye beinge then Captayne of the band of armed men, at which tyme hee verylye thinckethe there were not fewer persons then [fi] sixe or seaven hundrethe people assembled: Amonge which armed men<sup>1</sup> Edward Carye Stephen Millward defendantes [and others] were parte of them and diuerse others alsoe of the defendantes, (but which of them he cannot of the certayntye of his memory expresse,) beginninge to shewe theire trope of armed men frome about xij of the Clock vntill it was Eveninge prayer tyme, instantlye after prayer was ended begann agayne and continewd vntill it was aboute viij or ix of the Clocke therewith alsoe vsinge theire foresayed Morrys daunces: And this Deponent further saiethe That diuerse tymes on the sabboathe dayes in the monethes of Maye or Iune aforesayed the Complaynant making search did fynde manye persons in Taverns or Alehowses, ther drinckinge in the tyme of deuyne seruice, which were then come thither out of the Countrie parishes and townes aboute to beholde the sayed shewes then and there made, and likewise manye weomen were then found by the Complaynant in tyme of devyne seruice preparinge addressinge and makinge readye the same shewes in gardens and other places, and kepte from Church and deuyne seruyce by reason thereof And further vnto this Interrogatory hee cannot depose./

...

sheets 40-40v\*

...

- 40 To the 40 Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe That the Complaynant beinge Constable of Wells, in or aboute the xxij daye of Maye in the fyfte yeare of his Maiesty did [reade] publishe that parte of the proclamacion now shewed vnto him at the tyme of this his Examinacion, that prohibiteth vnlauffull games and pastimes to be vsed on the Sabbaothe dayes, sett forthe by his Maiesty the 7 of Maye in the firste yeare of his Maiesty ... The which when the Complaynant had soe doen the sayed Mr Alexander Towse did blame the Complaynant sayenge hee was to busye, and therwith added that it was lauffull to vse suche pastimes or sportes vppon anye Sabbaoth soe it were not in the tyme of devyne seruice or sermon or wordes to that effecte And further vnto this Interrogatory hee Cannot depose/

...

- 45 To the 45. Interrogatory This deponent saiethe That hee doethe <sup>1</sup>[knowe] that

1/ Defendant: for Deponent

11/ expresse,]; square bracket used as closing parenthesis



on the thirde daye of Maye beinge [som] the Sabboathe daye in the fyfte  
 yeare of his *Maiestyes* Raigne in the morning of <sup>Λ</sup>the<sup>1</sup> same daye the *sayed*  
 Thomas Peters *seruant* vnto Vertue Hunt hauinge beaten a drumbe in the  
 morninge and called diuerse persons togeather This deponent heard l the  
 Complaynant then beinge Constable of the *sayed* Cittye aboute seaven of 5  
 the Clock forbidde and Comaunde the *sayed* Peters not to drumbe that daye  
 because it was the Sabbaothe <sup>Λ</sup>and<sup>1</sup> forbiddinge [no] the *sayed* Peeters not  
 agayne to beat his *sayed* drumbe, & requiringe the whole Companye then  
 to departe vnto their howses or vnto the Church, the *defendant* Stephen  
 Millerd then beinge *presente* [whoe] boathe answered the Constable that hee 10  
 would not depart and alsoe willed the reste then assembled not to departe as  
 the *sayed* Constabl<sup>(.)</sup> <sup>(.)</sup> required them, vsinge bravinge speaches vnto the  
 Complaynant & telling him hee was as good a man as the *sayed* Constable.  
 And thereunto alsoe adding in presence of the assembled persons by the  
 Constable reprehended, that hee would gett minstrells him self and daunce 15  
 that daye: The *which* Peters <sup>Λ</sup>the<sup>1</sup> same<sup>1</sup> daye after wardes notwithstandinge  
 the *sayed* Constable had forbidden him to playe on or beat his drumbe, &  
 requyred his *sayed* Master alsoe thereunto to comaunde him, did in the streetes  
 of the same Cittye openly beate his drumbe whereby manye people were  
 gathered togeather and assembled And further vnto this Interrogatory hee 20  
 Cannot depose/

- 46 To the 46 Interrogatory This deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe that the  
 same Sabbaoth daye in his deposicion vnto the next preceeding Interrogatory  
 mencyned, the foresayed Thomas Peters did *presentlye* after [the] dynner, 25  
 and as hee verylye thinckethe before a greate number had dyned in the open  
 streetes of the *sayed* Cittye beat his *sayed* drumbe whereby manye people were  
 assembled, and then and there alsoe minstrells & a Taborer playenge before  
 them in twoe or three seuerall Companies and manye of the assembled persons  
<sup>Λ</sup>continewd<sup>1</sup> dauncinge vntill it was Evening prayer and *presentlye* after 30  
 prayer ended continewd their *sayed* dauncinge and playenge vntill it was  
 night: Soone after *which* their begininge the *sayed* Complaynant Constable  
 did requyer the *sayed* Minstrells drummer and dauncers to Cease their playenge  
 and dauncinge, aduertising them that it was the Sabbaothe and againste his  
*Maiestyes* Proclamacion: Vnto *which* speache William Watkyns one of the 35  
*defendants* openlye tould the Complaynant in that disorderlye assemblye that  
 hee lyed like a knave, and sayed vnto him alsoe that the *sayed* Minstrells and  
 dauncers should not gyve ouer: *Which* minstrells then contineweinge their  
 playe *presentlye* vppon the encouradgment, or wordes of the *sayed* william  
 Watkyns gaue a grea<sup>(.)</sup> shoute and lowde, and the Complaynant offeringe to 40

laye handes on one of the *sayed* minstrells and to haue committed him the *sayed* Watkyns resisted him, and *sayed* hee should not haue him vnto prison, diuerse others of the then Company rescuinge the *sayed* [pr] Minstrell out of the Constables handes, of whom hee well remembrethe Thomas Peeters was one, [but] the [th] names of anye of the reste hee nowe remembrethe not/ And further vnto this Interrogatory hee Cannot depose

...

sheet 41\*

- 56 To the Lv Interrogatory This deponent saiethe That vppon the xvij of May beeing sundaye in the vth yeare of his Maiestyes Raigne [being Sondag] the *said* wingod a Taborer [being a vagrant person] hauing noe Master nor certen place of aboade, hired to playe in the Cityte of wells aforesayed, there were within the streetes of the same Cityte to the number of a C persons assembled with morrice daunces and other shewes goeing in Company with the *sayed* Taborer or followeing him At which tyme the Complaynant requyred the *sayed* Wingo[o]d to leave his playenge and the Morryce dauncers to leave theire dauncinge, which they refusing to doe the *sayed* Complaynant did then apprehende the *sayed* Wingood, and willed this [defendant] deponent, and Richarde Crocker this deponentes father then presente to ayde and asiste him <sup>^</sup>to carye<sup>o</sup> the *sayed* Wingod vnto prison to thende to haue punished him as a vagrant person, & for that disorder accordinge to the statute: This deponent and his *sayed* father layeng handes alsoe vppon the *sayed* Wingod to haue asisted the Constable as aforesayed the defendant Oliuer Martyne alias Ieames did beate and hurte this [defendant] [deponent], and the *sayed* Martyne, with Iohn Blessley Stephen wason and diuerse others of that assemblye whose names hee nowe remembrethe not, did violentlye hale pull and thruste the Constable this [defendant] [deponent] and his *sayed* father, raylinge at the Complaynant and iustlinge him into the kennell vntill, they had rescued the *sayed* prisoner out of his and theire handes, the *sayed* Constable hauinge alsoe required them the *sayed* rescuers to asiste him, and to forbear theire contempte./

(signed) Christouer Croker

...

*Examination of Richard Collins, Baker* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 41v-2\* (Taken 1 June on complainant's first general series of interrogatories)

- 57 To the Lvijth Interrogatory This Defendant saiethe That [he] this Deponent

aboute the tyme of the *sayed* shewes made of the *foresayed* tradesmen [was] <sup>1</sup> *beinge* requested <sup>1</sup> *by Roberte Attwell* to borrowe a horse for him, [by Roberte Attwell, that] this deponent tould him that hee could not tell howe to helpe him vnto anye, but *sayed* vnto him that his brother *william* Attwell had one, whoe therevppon desyred this deponent to goe and borrowe the same, <sup>5</sup> (this deponent being not acquaynted to what purpose the *sayed* horse should bee vsed] the *which* hee did accordinglye, and was willed by the *sayed* <sup>1</sup> *william* Attwell to take the same The *which* horse when hee had gotten the same daye the *sayed* shewes was made he putt into the backsyde of the *sayed* Roberte Attwell, on *which* horse in the *sayed* shewe hee thinckethe a boye of Iohn <sup>10</sup> Edicoat shoe maker, and one Ieames brasyer did ryde representinge the *sayed* Grocer and Mercer, at *which* tyme alsoe one of the *sayed* disguised persons did ride vppon a blynde Nagge of Henrye ffosters, but that the *sayed* [of them] disguised persons did ride vppon either of the *sayed* horses with the priuie or consent of the *sayed* Henrye ffoster and *william* Attwell this Defendant <sup>15</sup> knowethe not, or what alloweauce or dislyk they gaue therevnto: And this deponent thinckethe the *sayed* disguised persons did all take horse att the howse of the *sayed* Roberte Attwell: But I further vnto this Interrogatory hee Cannot depose/

...

20

*Examination of William Tyderlegh, Gentleman* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 51\* (*Taken 11 June on complainant's first general series of interrogatories*)

...

To the sixth Interrogatory this deponent saith that he was present when one <sup>25</sup> William Peeters carryed a Calfe <sup>1</sup> *pictured* aboute the Towne accompanied with guns Morrice dauncers drvm and swordes [to] <sup>1</sup> *&c* the number of 100<sup>th</sup> persons or more, *which* Calfe was paynted <sup>1</sup> *with* white and red spottes on a borde sutable to the Collour of the Somerpooll *which* was sett vp betweene the Church and Mr Yardes house, *which* Somerpooll some of the Company <sup>30</sup> affirmed kept Mrs Yard from the Church: the *which* Ca<sup>l</sup>fe was often shewed against Mr Yardes dore in the open Markett place and sometyme one of that Companie would cry ba, like a Calf, *which* person was attired in Satire Skynns. and more to this Interrogatory this deponent cannot depose./

...

35

1/ the tyme ... shewes: 18 June 1607

7/ vsed]: square bracket used as closing parenthesis

9/ Roberte: written over something else, possibly william

13/ the *sayed*: corrected from either by partial cancellation and overwriting

15/ Defendant: for Deponent

25/ present: ie, on 10 May 1607

40

sheets 51v-3\*

To the xij<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* this Deponent sayth that aboute the xvij<sup>th</sup> day of June in the fifth yeare of the Kinges Maiesties Raigne, some of the Choristers of the Cathedrall Church of Welles [aforesaed] did then ride in white habites before some of the shewes to the Church howse of Welles aforesayd [which habites] which habites resembled the Church Vestmentes singing certaine sacred songes, hymns, or Anthems; which as this deponent remembreth weare <sup>1</sup> [svng] [singinge] at two seuerall shewes first when the high streates Company passed to the Churchall, and next when Chamberlyn streates <sup>1</sup> [company] went to the Church house. But the Choristers names or who procured the same to be done, this deponent cannot depose. But this deponent sayth he verilie [beleeveth] beleueeth that the greatest parte of the maisters of the Towne, and diuers of the defendantes weare at the Church house, both at the first and second tyme, and supte at the Church [house] Alle there. And that the Maior and his Companie <sup>1</sup> [for the most parte] weare present and beheld and followed the said shewes as they went, and came from the Churchall through the streates But the particuler shewes, or names of the sayd persons soe passing, this deponent cannot particulerlie recite./ And this Examinat farther saith that at the tyme when the Goddesse dyana was resembled and carryed there weare about some 600 persons or therabouts assembled in the streates of Welles wherof some weare of the Countrie and some of the Towne And there weare diuers on horsbacke with Armes which resembled St George and his knightes and many other shewes on foote and horsbacke, disguised men and sundry pagentes the which was began by the maior of Welles who first Went to the Churchouse with a St George on horse backe and other [...] shewes for his streates company and supte at the Churchall aforesaid. In the [said] Shewe of diana, weare many peeces discharged And this deponent was at that tyme, intreatd by Sir Iohn Rodney, being then in the Towne that he would be carefull there might be no disorder or ill behaiour committed at that tyme, which this deponent accordinglie to his vttermost power preuented. some of St Georges knightes weare Edward Cary William Peeters William Morgan alias Williams William Christopher: and St Georg himself was [then] one davy Trymme, But Whether William Watkyns weare in that shewe appointed a Whiffler (as in the *Interrogatory* is mencioned) this deponent knoweth not, But this deponent saith that he hath often seene the said William Watkyns execute that office in many meetings and companies, and that the said Watkyns is a great affecter of those and such gambolles and a great enemy to the Complainant. and more to this *Interrogatory* he cannot depose./

...

To the thirteenth *Interrogatory* this deponent saith that about the tyme in the *Interrogatory* mencioned in the fift yeare of his Maiesties raigne diuers theinhabitantes of So<sup>w</sup>thouer Street l in Welles and diuers other went and rode to the Church house aboute the number of two or three hundred persons [(...)] At the tyme of which Assemblie diuers of that company rode disguised through the streates representing sundrie trades and occupacions on horsback which soe contynued riding about the streates till they came to the Church house where they or the greatest part of them supt that night, Amongest which company one rode representing a haberdasher [who] offering hates to selles wearing a pouch by his side having in one hand a brush and in the other an old felte hat which he commendd for the best in the Towne or wordes to that effect One other then rode with a redd mantell aboute the backe in womans apparrell disguised with a turne or wheele on the horse neck with which the said person did spinne worsted exceeding fast sitting on horsback And <sup>^</sup>one<sup>1</sup> other person did then ride disguised [to] representing a tincker or rather a pewterer, with a bord athwart the horse [bac] before on which he layde sacers and dishes [on] workinge and beating theron with a hammer as if he had bene earnest at worke which he contynued doeing of through the streat.... And moreover it was then reported that because the said Holle, Meade, and Yard, had refused to goe with the rest of theire Neighbors to the Church alle [these] the same shewes weare devised and put in practise...

...

To the xvij<sup>th</sup> *Interrogatory* this Deponent sayth that aboute the lxxv<sup>th</sup> daie of Iune in the yeare aforesaid there[(...)] weare a great multitude of people assembled together in the streates at Welles <sup>^</sup>aboute 4 or 500 persons<sup>1</sup> at Which tyme there came a great company out of a Strete called Eastwelles in Welles aforesaid who carried through the streates of Welles to the Church house and Alle, there, many shewes, and especiallie one shewe on horsbacke with bordes and pictures and nyne holles.... on the highest bord towardes the people wear the[re] pictures of 2 men, and one woeman betweene them, with a brush in her hand, which in some sorte after that grosse manner of paynting seemed to resemble the *Complainant*, heugh Mead, and Iohn Yards Wiffe. And this deponent is the rather perswaded <sup>^</sup>soe<sup>1</sup> to beleuee for that the common speech amongst the people then was and contynueth that the <sup>^</sup>3<sup>1</sup> persons aforesaid weare therby represented. As also for that he knoweth that Iohn Gilberte is most maliciouslie bent against the sayd *Complainant*, for the said Gilbert affirmed in the hearing of this deponent, that the sayd *Complainant* was a Rascoll, and that he would make meate of his heare, and confounde all his purpo<sup>s</sup>es, [(...)] and that there was nowe no iustice in the land And added

1-2/ the tyme ... mencioned: 18 June 1607  
10/ seller: forsell

38/ his: forhim(?)

farther that if he weare in Morgans case he would be revenged on thi(.> deponent, for deliuering the said Libell or Epigrams to the officer viz Tell me of flesh (...) and affirmed that this deponent had dealt like a ludas or traytor in deliuering the s(...) And this *examine* farther saith he never heard any person grieved, <sup>1</sup>at the shewes but the Complainant, Meade, Yard, and yardes wiffe and that it is now growen a comon proverbe in the towne and Countrie, he holes or holes not, for 6 d. xij d. or a Crowne; and that they will goe into the Meade *which wordes* this deponent hath often heard weare deliuered by one Gamydg that rode with the foresaid pictures, and more to this Interrogatory he cannot depose

...

sheet 53v\*

...

To the 29, and 30<sup>th</sup> Interrogatories this deponent sayth that about fortnight after the Assizes aforesaid one William Morgan *alias* Williams the younger pronounced in the hearing of this [exa] <sup>1</sup>deponent<sup>1</sup> memoreter the Libell or verses in this Interrogatory mencioned viz: Tell me of flesh &c: which speech he deliuered with the action of his foote [&c] and hand, much like a player, *which moued* this deponent to thinke that the said verses had bene a *parte* of some play/ and therupon this deponent demaunded of the said Morgan, whether he had the same in writinge or no, who aunswered that he had, and the next day this deponent founde a Coppie of the same veses fayrelie written on the Shoppe border<sup>1</sup> in<sup>1</sup> which Shoppe the sayd Morgan sold Cloth...

...

*Interrogatories for Defendants' Witnesses* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 161v\* (25 June)

...

- 26 Item doe you know the parties *plainant* & *defendant*: doe you allsoe <sup>1</sup>knowe<sup>1</sup> or haue you heard of an Auncient Custom vsed in the said Towne of wells in the County of Somerset in & about the monethes of Maye & Iune that the Maior & Inhabitantes there yerely doe meet at a house called the Church house there to supp or drinck together of purpose & intent to cause some smale *sommes* of monie to be spent for & towards the reparacions of the parish Church there yea or noe howe long haue you known the same soc vsed. And whether hath there alsoe benn vsed as the said Maior & Inhabitantes haue vsed to reaire to the Church house certein Pageantes Maye games Morris daunces & shoves there to be sett forth for sportes & recreacion yea or noe

8/ deponent: de written over exa

16/ the Assizes aforesaid: held in Taunton September 1607

23/ veses: for verses

yf yea then whether at such tyme as Alexander Towse was Maior of the said Towne of wells in the fyfthe yere of the kinges maiesties Raigne that now is did the said Allexander Towse acordinge to the said vsuall course with some of the cheifest Inhabitan<sup>tes</sup> there as the [shew] shewes passed by or som of them amongst diuers others stand but as a spectator or as an Actor therein say [what] what you can herein what kinde of people were they that did the same <sup>^</sup>[whether] was this same donze to [prophan] prophane the Sabbaoth dayes & in time of diuine service or not whoe were the cause<sup>r</sup>'s or contrivers of these shewes & thinges Complained [f] of by the Complainant & what [are] <sup>^</sup>[are] their names.

10

Item wheather at the tyme the shewes were made & afterwards disliked of by the said Complainant did the Complainant allude or in speeches then giue forth that certein thinges in the same shewes now disliked of by him were to bee alluded or resembled to other persons then by him nominated yf yea Then whom did hee nominate the same was meant & intended <sup>^</sup>[or] to bee alluded vnto.

15

28 Item wheather weare there not diuers Iustices of the peace for the said <sup>^</sup>[County] doctors & grave devines with all the best sort of the towne there present at the sayd meetings or the sayd Church howse at supper And weare they then there to any other purpose then to bee merrie in such sort as in former tyme hath benn vsed saye what you cann herein And what were the names of such respectiue persons that were there And how <sup>^</sup>[& in what manner] did they behaue them selves

25

*Examination of John Isaac, Cordwainer* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheets 157-7v\* (*Taken 26 June on defendants' interrogatories*)

...

26 To the xxvj Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe the Complaynant and the Defendantes and alsoe doethe knowe that in his tyme it hath ben a Custome vsed in the sayed Towne of wells in and aboute the Monethes of Maye and Iune [yearelie] <sup>^</sup>[some yeares] that the Maior and inhabitauntes there [yearelye] doe meete at the Church howse, there to suppe or drinke togeather of purpose and entente to cause some small somes of money to bee spent for and towardes the reparacions of the parishe Church there, the which hath ben vsed [manye] in his tyme thrice, and hath heard by his father and Grand<sup>^</sup>[mother] [father] that the same had ben an auntyent Custome, with certayne Pageantes Maye games and shewes with morrys daunces sett forth for recreacion And this Deponent further saiethe That Mr Alexander Towse was in the fyfte yere of his Maiesties Raigne maior of the Cittie of wells

30

35

40

aforesayed, and did [behold] accordinge to the sayed vsuall custome or cou[r]se, with some of the Cheifeste inhabitauntes there as <sup>5</sup> some of<sup>1</sup> the shewes passed by stand as spectator[s] of the same And further vnto this Interrogatory then hee hathe before declared hee Cannot Depose/

- 27 To the xxvij Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe That the same daye, that the shewe was made for Southouer streete aboute an hower and hault before the same begann the Complaynant asked this Deponent whie he was not at the Churche howse, and affirmed then vnto him that anone hee should see in the same shewe Iohn Pinner sett forthe for a [habber] hatter, [Gratious] Gratiouse <sup>10</sup> watter for a Grocer. Iohn Baynter for a pewter, mistris Wadham for a worsted maker, Richard Tanner for a Clerke./

- 28 To the xxviii<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe That hee doethe knowe that at some of the tymes when the sayed Maior and his bretheren did goe vnto the Churche howse in the sayed fyfte yeare of his Maiestye Sir Iohn Rodney knight one of the Iustices of his Maiestyes Peace Beniamyn Hayden Deane of wells, and Mr Bolton one of the Canon Residentes of the Cathedrall Church of wells did accompanye them, with all the best sort of the towne to supper there, of purpose to be merrie onlye as this Deponent thincketh [to <sup>20</sup> bee merrie] in suche sorte as in former tyme it had ben vsed which respectiue persons as they wente by after the shewe and as they returned I did behaue them selues gravelye & with greate modestye And further vnto this Interrogatory hee Cannot Depose./

...

*Examination of Henry Boureman, St Olave's Parish, Hart Street, London*

PRO: STAC 8/161/1

sheet 68v\* (Taken 10 July on complainant's first general series of interrogatories)

...

- 14 To the xiiiij<sup>th</sup> Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe That ... after supper was ended th<...> the sayed disguised persons beinge againe in their former man<...> prepared came to the markett place and heighe Crosse, there con<...> neweing the forsayed Manner of actinge the sayed tradesmen, th<...> foresayed Maior and his Companye aforesayed with a greate number o<...> <sup>35</sup> others followed the sayed disguised persons to the Markett pla<...> Crosse and ther stode and beheld them, and as they were ac<...> the same shewes at or

6–7/ the same day ... streete: 18 June 1607

16/ pewter: for pewterer

18/ Mr Bolton: Richard Boughton, precentor and prebendary of Compton Dundon, 1606–1617

31–2/ after supper was ended: on 18 June 1607



neare the Markett Crosse Mr Benia(...) Hayden late Deane of wells beinge  
 then in Companye of (...) Maior [did] & his brethren, did cheapen of the  
*sayed* disguised habberd(...) a hatt, and <sup>^</sup>the *sayed* Hughe Meade then and  
 there did in respecte of th(.) abuse profered him by the *sayed* disguised  
 pew[s]terer, [did then] ta(...) frome him his hammer and his saucer, wherewith  
 hee had before (...) the *sayed* shewe, but presentlye an other hammer and  
 saucer was b(...) vnto the same disguised person (but by whome hee knowethe  
 n(...) wherewith hee agayne continewed the shew as hee formerlye h(...)  
 doen...

...

10

**Compert Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 162

f [69]\* (15 September)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before*  
*Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*  
*and registrar*

*Contra Iohannem Hole*

*Presentatur* That they are certified by oth that within this yeere past Iohn Hole  
 came to the house of Iohn Yard in the night tyme he beinge att London, and  
 his people att a plaie, & went into the parlor with Anne [parler] Yard the wiffe  
 of the said Iohn Yard without light remayninge theare the space of quarter of  
 an houre & more, which circumstance giueth suspition of incontinenie  
*Similiter etc. Quo die dominus decreuit (blank)*

*Executum* fuit decretum vijs et modis etc. *per* [Walterium] Petrum Lane &c  
 primo octobris 1609./

6 octobris *predicti* coram *magistro doctore* Iames etc *reseruata* fuit eius pena  
 in *proximum*.

3 Novembris 1609. coram *magistro* Edwardo Tynes clerico &c *surgato* &c;  
 facto *preconizazione* &c et non

*contra Annam Yard*

*Presentatur* vt supra.° [Similiter &c Quo die &c] *Citata* fuit *per eundem*  
*mandatarium* &c ix die *instantis* septembris &c Quo die *facta preconizazione*  
 &c et non *comparente* &c *reseruata* pena in *proximum*./

6 octobris 1609. coram *vicario generali* *antenominato* &c. *comparuit*, et ex eo  
 quod est vir dignior persona etc/ *dominus continuauit* *negocium contra* eandem  
 vt nunc est vsque in *proximum*, et monuit eandem ad tunc *interessendum* ad  
 videndum *vlterioorem processum* etc et *presertim* ex eo quod dictum Hole  
 versatum esse Londini &c./

...

est clauda  
 ta et  
 ma

ctobris  
 ovembris  
 ece mbri

*First Examination of Matthew Jefferis, Vicar Choral* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 71\* (Taken 20 September on complainant's first general series of  
interrogatories)

- ...
- 60 To the 60. Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe That this Deponent beinge  
present with Mr William Evans Schoolemaster of wells after diuerse of the  
shewes made within the sayed Cityte of Wells in the fyfte yeare of his Maiestye,  
ther came vnto theire Companye on Iohn <sup>^</sup>Atwell alias<sup>^</sup> Tanner of the sayed  
Cityte, vnto whome the sayed William Evans had speache vnto this or the  
like effecte viz Iohn Tanner diuerse other streetes your neighbors of this Cityte  
haue made shewes and pastymes for the seuerall streetes or places of theire  
dwellinge, and your street is onely behinde and hathe doen nothinge to the  
settinge forth of the same: I could therefore wishe that you would make some  
speache or Oracion in Lattye to bee openlye pronounced [at the Markette  
Crosse] in Comendacion of learninge and Tanners, because manye of your  
Neighbors of the streete where you dwell are Tanners and of the trade, <sup>^</sup>&<sup>^</sup>  
shewe that by learninge men may frone those trades rise vnto greate honor  
and preferment: Accordinge to which Mocion the sayed [Roberte] <sup>^</sup>Iohn<sup>^</sup> <sup>^</sup>Atwell  
alias<sup>^</sup> Tanner did presentlye vndertake to penne suche a speache and  
Oracion, and soe did, and the nexte daye broughte the same vppe vnto this  
Deponent entreatinge him to sende the same vnto the sayed Mr Evans to be  
veiwed, the which this Deponent did accordinglye And further vnto this  
Interrogatory hee Cannot depose./

...

*Second Examination of Matthew Jefferis, Vicar Choral* PRO: STAC 8/161/1  
sheet 72\* (Taken 20 September on complainant's second general series of  
interrogatories)

- ...
- 1 To the firste Interrogatory This Deponent saiethe ... that diuerse tymes before  
the sayed ridinge and singing by the sayed Choristers was perfourmed, the  
sayed Edmund White Defendant did entreate this Deponent beinge then  
teacher of the sayed Choristers to gyve them leave to that purpose: The which  
when this Defendant had denyed him, hee or some other wente vnto Master  
Dr Hayden late Deane of wells and procured leave for them, wherevppon they  
wente to the actinge of the shewe as hee hathe before depose...

...

31/ the sayed ridinge and singing: on 17 June 1607  
34/ Defendant: for Deponent

## 1609-10

*Letter of Earl of Hertford to Lord Chancellor Ellesmere*

Huntington Library: EL 2729

f [1]\* (13 November)

My good Lord your often worthy fauors yealded unto me in many my former  
 desyres in matters honest & reasonable encouradge me to trouble your  
 Lordship yet a little further for my good frendes/ The Maior & Masters of ye  
 City of [Well] Wells [who] <sup>1</sup>(as<sup>1</sup> I understand) are to receaue your Lordships  
 censure in ye Starchamber upon Wensday the 15<sup>th</sup> of this Nouember Whearin  
 my desyre is not any way to extenuat the fautes of those yat are drawn in  
 question for Libelling or other scandalous Pageantes & mockerys/ Bur knoweng  
 yat the gouuernment [of] & authority of yat Towne & ye Magistrates ther are  
 endeouored to be wholly ouerthrowen by some Iustices of ye Peace inhabiting:  
 my request to your Lordship is yat you would be pleazed in ye hearing of this  
 cause so farre to extend your honorable fauor unto ye sayd Magistrates &  
 theyr authority by geaving them grace & countenance as ye Iustice of your  
 wysedome & the quality of ye cause may permyt. Els ye bazer & inferiour  
 sort of people ther wyll euer be redy to haue them & theyr gouuernment in  
 contempt./ In which my desyres I am ye more earnest with your Lordship  
 because ye Recorder of ye Towne is one neere vnto me & doth me good  
 seruices/ & ye late Maiors Sonne is my howshold seruant whose father I know  
 to be uery honest/ & thearfore do desyre that no disreputation may fall upon  
 them [nor] nor ye other Magistrates/ Whearin I shall among many your  
 Lordships former fauors acknowledge this not ye meanest & euer gratfully  
 remain

Your Lordships most assured louing frend  
 Hertford

ffrom Litleton  
 this Monday night  
 the 13<sup>th</sup> of Nouember  
 1609

*Plaintiff's Summary of Charges in Hole v. White et al*

Huntington Library: EL 2728

single sheet\* (November?)

John Hole Plaintiff The persons vndernamed defendentes ffor the offences  
 and misdemeanors vnderwritten

All the offences committed in Maie and Iune, 5<sup>o</sup> Iacobi Regis, in the tyme of  
 the Commotion in Northamptonshire and the derogacion to the plaintiff,  
 being then one of the Constables of welles aforesaid.

The *plainant* is a Clothier by his trade, & keepeth 500 poore people weeklie at worke

Prophanations of the Sabaoth daie	Stephen Milward Edmond White William Watkins. James Godwin	} Sunday. 30. Maij. 5 <sup>o</sup> Iacobi Regis. minstrells apprehended by the <i>plainant</i> for playing at Cardes & drincking in tyme of divine service then enlarged countenanced and abetted by the <i>defendant</i>	5
	Edward Cary }	} Sunday. 17 <sup>o</sup> Maij. 5. Iacobi Regis. Chiefe Actor in the Prophanacion of the Sabaoth & disturbance of the watch	10
	Oliuer Martyn }		
Proclamation		} Whitsonewe 23 <sup>o</sup> Maij } 5 <sup>o</sup> Iacobi Regis. Trinity sonday 31 May }	15
	Edmond white Stephen Millward vertue Hunt Thomas Peeters Edward Cary		
		} The proclamacion read to theis <i>defendants</i> on Whitson eve, who in Contempt thereof contynued those disordered shewes.	20
1 Acting of tradesmen.		} 18 <sup>o</sup> Iunij. 5 <sup>o</sup> . Iacobi Regis	
	Mathewe Lancaster <sup>o</sup> <i>defendant</i> <sup>o</sup> James Lidyad Robert Atwell Thomas Bison. <sup>o</sup> a ryder <sup>o</sup> Iohn <sup>o</sup> Smith I <sup>o</sup> ohn Roddeway. }		
	Alexander Towse maior Leonard Crosse Edward wadham esquire James Godwyn. gentleman William Bull William Watkins William Euans. William Atwell. Henry Foster. Edmond White.	} Drommer to theis shewes <sup>o</sup> <i>defendant</i> <sup>o</sup>  he woulde leaue theym out. <sup>o</sup>  Countenancers of theis shewes	30   35

24/ 18<sup>o</sup> ... Regis: enclosed in a box, possibly for emphasis

29/ I<sup>o</sup>hn<sup>o</sup>: corrected from James apparently by Lord Ellesmere

19<sup>o</sup> Iunij 5.<sup>o</sup> Iacobi Regis

Alexander Towse } ffor neclecting to punishe those disorders  
 by the procurement of } notwithstanding complaint made  
 Edward wadham & } °he woulde leaue theym out°  
 Henry Foster.

5

25 Iunij 5<sup>o</sup> Iacobi Regis.

amage his }  
 ing game } acted the holing game with pictures in the lewde  
 manner described in the Bill  
 nyng the } °holinge agaynst the *kinges proclamacion* hill ye  
 ges } scrivener (...) of picture resembling hugh meade  
 lamacion.° }  
 3. William Gamage }  
 Walter Smith °defendant° } painted the pictures  
 Iohn Roddeway } Drommer  
 Iohn Gilbert °defendant° } paid for painting the bordes, & lent 3  
 horses towards the acting of the shewes  
 Edmond white } Collections of money  
 vertue Hunt } for theis shewes  
 Robert Creese }  
 Thomas Halle } churchwardens

20

Iuly and August .5.<sup>o</sup> Iacobi Regis

4. Edmond white } Contemnners of the Iudges *lettres*,  
 Stephen Millward } & *warrantes* therevpon made  
 Alexander Towse maior }  
 Leonard Crosse. }  
 William Bull. } Countemnners and Abettors thereof  
 Henry Foster } °William Atwille was wrongfully punyshed.°  
 William watkins }

25

Iuly. 5<sup>o</sup> Iacobi Regis

First Libell William Gamage. } Author and inventor of the first Libell after hee  
 was committed to warde vppon the Iudges letters.  
 °he svng & he made Copyis.°  
 °[+ Daniell Tuthyll]°

30

William Gamadge °a singr.° In the prison.  
 Oliuer Martin *alias* Iames. (°a singr of yt°) Innes, &  
 Robert Atwell (°a singr.°) Alehowses  
 Thomasine White } In the Deanes howse  
 °sent for the libell to *Mistris* heydon Tell Hole not halfe so much as he deserved.°  
 Edmond White }  
 Iohn Hodges *alias* Hiscox } In Barbars shopp °vsually svng°

40

¶ In the scole house°

Stephen Millward

°toke a cōpye°

At a Churchale at Pill

Thomas Haggett °defendant°

Iohn Hodges alias Hiscox

} Sent to London to be printed  
°he desired Budg to gett it prynted./  
haggettes vnderstandinge &c°

August & September 5.° Iacobi.

7. Second  
Libell

William Williams alias Morgan Iunior made and invented the second Libell

William Williams alias Morgan Iunior

George Greenstreete

William Euans

} Publishers of the second Libell

22° Octobris. 5. Iacobi Regis.

8 Leonard Crosse

William Bull

Henry Foster

Alexander Towse

Robert Creese °defendant 3 li.°

Thomas Hall °defendant 13 li.°

} Spente the moneyes of the Townestock  
& Churchstock in maintenance of  
theis misdemenors, & gave  
allowance therevnto.

} °.6. li. for thyr charges & Imprisonment°

°not in the bylle°

James Godwyn

9 Leonard Crosse

William Bull.

William Watkins

Edmond White

Alexander Towse

William Attwell.

Henry Foster

made actes of Common Councell to  
mainteyne sute against the plainant  
the Charges thereof to be disbursed,  
out of the Towne. & Church stock.

col 1

°Contemping the kinges proclamation

a quarrell conceyved agaynst the plainant for standinge [to haue] the  
proclamation per formed.

Revenge by histrionically shewes. & Libelles.

scornynge the kinges proclamation in actinge thes shewes.

Actors, procurers, Contenancers, & maynteyners/ Actors 4 viz Makers/ Copyers/  
[dispensers]/ singers, & publishers, prying.

Contemnyng the Iudges letters & warrantes saying they were wrongefully  
punyshed.

37/ 4: written over 3

38/ prying: for prying; abbreviation mark missing

mispendinge the towne stocke & church stock.  
 Actes of comen counsell to maynteyne the sutes.  
 Inditementes presentmentes, & consultacion for a crosse bille  
 The Example & mischiefes followinge in other places<sup>o</sup>

col 2

consistunt  
 ncipiunt  
 ora<sup>o</sup>

<sup>o</sup>Iniuria vni facta redundat (...) plures.

Patientia *pro* consensu habetur

- { Qui non prohibet, jubet.  
 { Qui non Improbatur, approbat.  
 { Qui patitur *quod* prohibere potest, ipse facere videtur.

Negligentia lata & supina, est lata Culpa

Agentes & Consentientes pari pœna plectuntur<sup>o</sup>

### Star Chamber Minute Book

Alnwick Castle: Percy Letters and Papers, vol 9 23/6

f 99

xiiiij<sup>to</sup> Novembris Anno Septimo

Iacobi Regis

Iohn Hole *plainant* Roberte Attwell and others *defendants*

ffor making Publique and disguised shewes and pastymes at their Church-  
 ales and thereby dyd personate & represente the *plainant* and others his  
 frindes, viz the *defendant* Lancaster being in womans apparell like a<sup>1</sup> spinster  
 spinin[e]ge of wosted which was the *plainants* [called] Callinge:/ Thomas  
 Bison rode on a horse with a Brushe in one hande and a hatt in the other,  
 therby representinge one Iohn yeard a haberdasher; Iohn Smith rode with a  
 planke overthwart the horse with a hammer beatinge of a pewter dishe with  
 pottes and a Skommer at [the] his girdle thereby representinge one Meade a  
 pewterer: Other two *defendants* rode vppon one horse face to face with a  
 paire of Skales and a fraile of Raions representinge one Palmer a Grocer:  
 [Attwell rode w] Another tyme they rode with pictures of a mann & a  
 woman in the [vpper] vpper ende of a Borde [with] holdinge a Brushe and a  
 hatt and in the [loer] lower ende of the Boarde Nyne holes with a Bowle  
 Bowlinge at Nyne holes sayinge he holes or he holes nott meaninge the  
*plainante* hole: And in this manner they [ride] dyd ryde vpp & downe the  
 Streetes And after made & published [a] two<sup>1</sup> slaunderous libells against the  
*plainant* & others./

36/ Bowle: B corrected, perhaps from b

To bee committed to the fleet and to ride two & two vppon a horse with papers & their faces one towardes another from the ffeet to westminster and bee sett in the pillory, And then to acknowledge there offences. and ride in thesame manner back againe to the ffeete

To ride in like manner from the ffeete into Cheapside & to be sett in the pillory & acknoledg their offences

Punishmentes/

To bee carried downe to welles & there to [bee] ride in like manner through the Cheiffe Streetes in the Citty and bee sett in the pillory and aske the *plainant* forgeeuenes

The like punishment at the next assises in Somersett sheere.

To paie seuerall ffynes of 100 li. a peece to the kinge And to paie the *plainant* 100 li. for damadges./

ff 101-2v\* (17 November)

(.)ohn Hole *plaintiff* In Camera Stellata Edmond White *defendants*  
William Evans et  
et alii ad numerum [(.)] 39

1. The first charge is for diuers riotous assemblies in the monethes of Maie and lune, Anno quinto Iacobi Regis with billes bowes and gunnes on sabaoth daies in prophanacion of the sabaoth and other holie daies in the saide monethes, and for dauncinges, Maie games, Morris daunces, and pastymes vsed on the daies before mentrioned

② All the  
defendants are  
heere charged  
as actors &  
abettors

The plaintiff beeing cunstable did prohibitt and forbid theis assemblies and shewes and that hee published the kinges maiesties proclamacion which was made against assemblies and shewes on the sabaoth daie, and that vagrant persons were rescued from the cunstable, whom hee hadd apprehended for their misdemeanors That there were diuers publike shewes acted the 18. of lune anno 5. Iacobi which did represent tradesmen and namelie a hatter, a pewterer, a grocer, a Spinster, a vsurer, &c which the plaintiff taketh to bee donne in derision of him and his welwillers

② All the  
defendants are  
heere also  
charged./

② Edward White  
Henry ffoster  
and and others./

That the Maior of the towne seeinge theis sportes and beeinge complayned vnto by the parties greived did not reprue 'it' [(.)]

the confederates charged by abetment of William Evans†<sup>②</sup>

That an oration was penned and published by a person disguised in disgrace of the late *Bushop* of Bath & Welles

Georg Greenstreet Edmond White, Thomasine his wife Vertue Hunt & others./†<sup>②</sup>

That annother shew was made with pictures and Nynne holes, and diuers other shewes, accons, and speeches, tendinge to the disgrace of the *plaintiff* and other his freinds

② Alexander  
Towse then  
Maior/.



Robert Creese Thomas Hall, Edmond White Thomasine his wife Vertue Hunt./†<sup>6</sup>

[That the churchwardens of the parishe did make vnlawfull Collections on the Inhabitan<sup>t</sup>es within the parishe towards the maintenaunce of theis shewes]

7 That there was a false libell settinge forth the saide disordered sportes, and shewes, and representacons, in disgrace of the plaintiff Iohn Yard, Hugh Mead, & Humfrye Palmer, alludinge to them by their trades

8 That the Lord Cheif Iustice and the Lord Cheif baron sent their letters to the Late lord Bushopp and other Iustices of the peace for the examinacions of the misdemeanors, and that the Lord Bushopp and Iustices sent Warrantes for the apprehension of some of the misdooers [b] to bee examined who refused to come and appeare, And after one of the misdooers beeinge apprehended and imprisoned for his contempt, the Maior of the towne by procurement of others, sent a supersedias to discharge the prisoner in contempt

Georg Greenstreet Edmond White Henry ffoster et alij†<sup>6</sup>

That the saide libell after some of the disorders were punished at the assizes by the Lord Cheif Iustice, was againe published |

William Williams Edmond White William Peeters†<sup>6</sup>

10. That another libell was afterwards cast out, and published in disgrace of the plaintiffes, Palmer, yard, and meade in September followinge

[12] 11 That in August anno 5. Regis Iacobi diuers persons were by confederacye precepted to appeare before Beniamyn Heyden then deane of Wells, and bound over to giue evidence against the plaintiff at the Assizes, not havinge any thinge to obiect against him

[13] 12. That some wordes were published by the malefactors to insinuate that the Lord Cheif Iustice had wrongfullie punished the offenders

[14] 13 That the renewes of the Citty and the churchstock was imployed and allowed towards the mayntenaunce and countenauncinge of the saide abuses.

The answer to it

1. There were diuers assemblies to bring in Maie and Maye games for recre(...) onlie withowt offence to anie; if the plaintiff could haue byn contented to haue giuen waie to them who was then but an inferior officer, yet taking on hi(...) more then the maior and Iustices of the towne with a pretence to preven(...) prophanacion of the sabaothe, and intrueth some of theis shewes were on (...) sondaie, but not in the tyme of Deuine service or sermones./.

2 There was alsoe churchales and meetings of the parishners at the church and in their goinge to the churchowse so there were certaine shewes and pla(...) sett forth with giauntes, pageantes, and other shewes of [sertaine] Princ(...) Authur and his knight, St George and the Dracon, Acteon and Diana with diuers other sportes and deuises without offence to anye, And these

6/ representacons: for representacions; abbreviation mark missing  
20/ plaintiffes: for plaintiff(?)

22/ before: b corrected from f

- continued there seuerall daies together and in theis assemblies were the better sorte of the said towne both of the clergie and layetye/.
- 3 ffor the shew of the 4<sup>th</sup>. daie there were diuers trades men repræs(...) as a hatter, a pewterer, a grocer &c. which the plaintiff and his associa(...) applie vnto themselues, and to bee donne in derision of them, Theis spo(...) are not iustifiable, nor ever allowed by the consent or likinge of the be(...) sort of the towne. But the dislike is that the plaintiff cannot bee content to complaine of the actors, contrivers, and setters forth of the s(...) sportes, but in a malicious course to some, and to gayne by others, hee hath made all these that were either spectators or in company ther of parties to his Bill, which were neither acquainted with the shewes, nor priue to the meaninge thereof./.
- 4 True it is that the Maior was a beholder of theis sportes, but not knowinge what was intended, nor priue to any abuse towards anie, And if the plaintiff would haue been advised by him the offenders had bin punished./.
- 5 ffor the oration which is supposed to bee penned and published by the procurement of william Evans in disgrace of the late bushopp, This matter was examined by the late lord Bushopp and master doctor Iames, and appeared to bee but a merriment without any intent of disgracinge the saide Bushopp and intrueth it was nothinge els but a lattin oration in praise of learninge, made by [a] a vaine conceited man, to shew his witt and learninge, but it was neuer pronounced.
- 6 ffor the shewes made with pictures and nyne holes &c is not iustifiable but it was devised and sett forth by lewde fellows, they must answere it.
- 7 Soe likewise for the first libell and the publishers therof, yet were they punished at the assizes by the lord Cheif Iustice by imprisonment and otherwise.
- [8.] [ffor vnlawful collections made by the churchwardens they were but small pettie summes, freelie giuen by the parishners without assessment and these summes employed by the churchwardens for the apparrelling of the giauntes, which haue for manie yeares bin kept by the parishe, and at such meetinges a new garnishd and amended, and not to the disordered shewes./]
- 8 ffor opposinge the lord Bushops warrant by the maior of the towne, it was for that by the Charter of the towne, every burgesse within that towne is to bee precepted by the maior Recorder and Iustices there for all offences there committed, and not to bee precepted by any forreyne Iustice, except in case of treason murther or felonye, And therfore for the mayntenaunce of their charter and liberties did the maior by the advise of the Recorder send a supersedias, yet notwithstandinge did the saide maior binde the saide offenders formerlie precepted by the saide lord Bushop over to the assizes, where they appeared and were punished./:
- [9] ffor the second Libell the author is knowne, and hath confessed the makinge and publishinge of it. And Mr Evans is onlie charged, with the publishinge,

therof *which* is by [this] this meanes. The saide Evans was a great companion with one Nicholas weekes, And the saide Evans one daie cominge to the howse of weekes to supper, where they talkinge of theis matters and shewes Mr Evans said there was more knauerye abroad, for there is a new libell, cast abroad, whervppon the sonne of the said Nicholas standinge bye said that hee hadd a copie of the said libell, and fetched it to the said Mr Evans, whoe read it, and afterwards prayed to haue it wth him, and hadd it, Neuer readinge nor publishinge it to any, And after this the saide Evans and weekes fallinge out, the said weekes sett this matter a foote against the said Evans, and caused the *plaintiff* to putt him into the Bill for contrivinge and publishinge of this libell, and the saide weekes his sonne and his man are witnesses, and to excuse themselues haue accused Mr Evans.

ffor the precepting of diuers persons before doctor heyden deane of wells it is true and not without cause for the complaynaunt was then not without fault, and accused vppon good ground of diuers misdemeanors/ ffor the Words spoken against the lord Cheif Iustice, they are not iustificable if they bee prooued./

That the revenues of the citey and the churchstock was allowed or employed for the maynteyninge of any abuses is most vntrew, But true it is that vppon the supersedias graunted by the Maior, the towne charters and liberties beeing in question, The maior did send the charter with some speciall men of trust to the I assizes, thereby to giue the Iudges satisfaccion for their doinge, in the graunt of the supersedias before mentioned, and for the shewing and pleading then there were diuers fees and other summes of money laid out, *which* was afterwards allowed to the generall receaver of the towne vppon his accompt. The churchwardens were alsoe called by the procurement of the plaintiff to answeere their churchales, And vppon their accomptes they allowed them selues for their charges to the assizes, *which* the parishe did allow of, for by their care over and aboue all charges there was xxxviij li. brought in to increase the stock of the parishe.

...

## 1610–11

*Corporation Act Book 3* WITH  
f 352 (6 December)

...

It is likewise agreed that the Musicians shall haue Coates of Brodclothe this yeare *which* shall serve them for their *liueries* these two yeares ffor *which* they shall haue allowaunce of iij li. x s. in money.

...

4/ said: corrected from same

**Bishop's Court Deposition Book** SRO: D/D/Cd 44

f [149v]\* (23 July) (*Deposition of Philippa Wilson, aged 26, wife of Thomas Wilson, taken on behalf of Agnes Vernon against Thomasine Comb*)

*Taken before Thomas Merest, cleric, surrogate judge*

...

Ad secundum articulum Libelli predicti in vim iuramenti Examinata deponit et dicit that in the evening of a certaine Tewesdaye hapning about the later end of the moneth of Maye [nust] now last past before this her examination vt modo recolit tempus aliter recordari non potest, this examinant and the said Thomasine Comb together with Alice Potter and her contest Iohn Brooke, being all standinge together at the Shoppwindowe of one Thomas Lachfield in Chamberlyn streate in Welles, and the said Thomasine Comb being [at] in some displeasure with the said Agnes Vernon about a Somer pole which was then taking downe, she vsed against the said Agnes Vernon thease wordes followinge vz Shee is (meaning and naming the said Agnes vernon) a bawde, and shee keepeth open her doores, vntill the Watchmen must bid her shutt them at nighte, & quod she, she is a bawd for old bawld pate vp at the Churche, and for Marwood vpp at the Close. Et hæc deponit de suis proprijs auditu, visu, et intellectu, present the partye abovenamed hearinge & seeing the premisses. Et aliter nescit deponere./

...

ff [155v-6]\* (29 July) (*Deposition of Alice Byson, alias Hopkins, aged 56, wife of David Hopkins, glover*)

*Taken before Edward Tynes, cleric*

...

Ad secundum articulum in vim iuramenti examinata deponit et dicit that vppon a certaine daye hapninge [hapninge] in the moneth of Iune last after that mayegaminge did growe out, vt modo recolit diem & tempus aliter perfectius non recordatur in the evening about nyne or ten of the clock at nighte there weare assembled together diuerse of the neighbors [of] in Chamberlyn streate in Welles neere to one Leggs doore there, amongst I whome weare the articulated Thomasine Comb and her husband, alsoe Goodewiffe Chislett and her husband, and Iohn Brooke, and Phillippe wilson and her husband, Whooe all together being in conference & Communication about a sommer pole that was standing at the doore of the saide Agnes vernon, which the saide Agnes had denyed somm of them to take downe, And the said Edward Comb sayeing that if he had byn present when the saide Agnes Vernon withstoode the takinge downe of the saide Sommer pole, he would haue tripped vpp her heeles like a scold as she was.

Then one of the companie sayeing, whooe is <sup>^</sup>[it] that is such a scould, the[s] saide Thomasine Comb made answere thervnto, and sayed: whie that Bawde [Pam] Agnes Osmund, (beinge the *articulate* Agnes vernon *alias* Osmund) Et hoc deponit et dicit de suis certis auditu et scientia Present the parties abovenamed: But this [deponent] <sup>^</sup>[examinant] saith that <sup>^</sup>[she] thes deponent 5 [heard] <sup>^</sup>[did] not see the saide partyes whiles they vsed the *communication* & wordes aforesaide, but standing <sup>^</sup>[in] her house <sup>^</sup>[fast by] hard them verie well, for theie weare verie Lowd And saith that all the saide partyes, whooe vsed eache of them [som] some talke or other at the tyme and place aforesaid weare and are thes *Examinantes* neighbors, and such persons whooe are verie 10 well knowne by theire voices to her: she beinge almoste dailye conversant amongst them & with them. Et *aliter* nescit deponere./

...

f [181] (1 October) (*Deposition of Richard Chislett, parchment-maker, aged 34,* 15 *on interrogatories on behalf of Agnes Vernon against Edward Comb*)

*Taken in the court before Anthony Methwyn, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Robert Pynne, notary public.*

...

Ad 3 *respondet* that there is noe enmyte displeasure or hatred borne by this *respondent* againste the articulated Agnes Osmond. And this *respondent* <sup>^</sup>[sayeth that hee] did once saye that if he had byn one of the youtthes that weare at the taking downe of the Somer lugge *which* she had standinge at her doore this laste maye moneth he would haue strooke up her heeles Et *aliter* *negariue* 20 *respondet*

...

## 1611-12

*Sessions Book 1* WTH

f [147v]

30

*Presentments by John Alford, one of the wardens of the shambles*

...

Qui super sacramentum suum presentant quod Michael Alford de Welles in 35 Comitatu Somerset Butcher secundo die Novembris Anno Regni domini nostri Jacobi Regis Anglie etc Nono apud Welles predictas in Comitatu predicto vnum Taurum necuit et [ill] carnem illius diuersis dicti domini Regis ligeis et subditis vendidit vbi predictus taurus non fuit pulsatus anglice bayten [for] contra formam statuti in huiusmodi Casu provis[i] 40

35/ presentant: for presentat

Et quod Iohannes Millerd <sup>^</sup>[senior] necuit vnum taurum in eisdem die et anno supradictis modo et forma predictis./

Et quod Robertus dunstone eisdem die et anno necuit vnum taurum modo et forma predictis

Et quod predictus Michael Alford ix<sup>o</sup> die Novembris Anno supradicto necuit vnum taurum vt supra

Et quod Iohannes Millerd necuit vnum taurum vt supra xiiij<sup>to</sup> decembris Anno supradicto 10

Et quod Egidius Spratt eisdem die et anno necuit vnum taurum vt supra  
...

**Bishop's Court Deposition Book** SRO: D/D/Cd 45 15

f [14v]\* (30 March) (Deposition of Edith Brooke, aged 26, wife of John Brooke, miner, on behalf of Agnes Vernon against Edward Comb)

Taken before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Thomas Heath, 20  
notary public

...

Ad .6. articulum deponit et dicit that true it <sup>^</sup>[is] that whenas the Goodewiffe Vernon alias Osmund did as much as she might resist the taking downe of the sommer pole articulated standing at her dore for feare of endaugnering her house, the articulated Edmund Henlye in furie & rage swore that if she would not suffer him to pull downe the same, he would strike his pickax thorough her feete, and vsed other vnseemly & reviling words towards her in raging & angrie manner: He the said Henlye being at that tyme the gookcoe lord. And this did this Examinant see & heere to be donne & spoken, it beinge donne about thend of maye comyn twelve moneth Et aliter nescit deponere. 25 30

...

f [15]\* (Deposition of John Potter, carpenter, aged 56, on the same behalf) 35

...

Ad 5 articulum deponit et dicit that this examinant did knowe the articulated Edmund Henlye being a young man and servant to Thomas Lachfield of Welles Glover, and that the said Henlye was Cuckcoe Lord the last sommer in that streate. And farther saieth that this Examinant talking with the said Edmund Henlye about his beinge a witnes for Edward fford, which hapned a little before their meetinge, he confessed to this Examinant that he was 40

drawen in for a witness against the Goodewiffe vernon, but by whome he knoweth not. Et *aliter* nescit deponere.

...

### 1612-13

#### *Corporation Act Book 3* WTH

f 372 (11 January)

...

It is agreed and condiscended by all the persons aboue written that the townemusions that nowe ar within this Cittie shalbee yearlie allowed vnto them out of the Common rentes xl s. *per annum*. Provided that yf they doe not giue their intendaunce vnto the Mayor and his brethren at Christmas Easter Whitsondaie and other speciall tymes of meetings or shall goe forth of the towne at any of the said times Then this acte to be voyd The money to bee paid yearlie at Christmas And the Receavor to paie xl s. for this Christmas laste.

f 374 (19 July)

...

fforasmuche as by a *lettre* sent from the Lord Buishoppe it appeareth that the Queenes Maiestie doth intend to come to Wells And therefore It is desired by his Lordshipp that there should bee a silver bole given to her Maiestie of the price of xx li. that the Streetes should bee made handsome and the towne to bee ridd of beggers and Rogues It is therefore nowe ordered that there shalbee a bole provided of silver and guilt of the price of xx li. to be given to her Maiestie.

...

f 375\* (22 July)

...

It is ordered for thentertainment of the Queenes Maiestie that the Mayor and his brethren shall attend in their Scarlett gownes neere aboute Brownes gate and the residue of the xxiiij<sup>tie</sup> to attend likewise in person in blacke gownes And the residue of the Burgesses to attend likewise in their gownes and best apparrell And this to bee donne by the ouersight of Master Mayor Mr Baron and Mr Smyth.

ffor the ouerseeinge of the armed men Mr Coward Mr Tabor Henrie ffoster & William Atwell.

20/ the Lord Buishoppe: *James Montague, bishop of Bath and Wells 1608-16*

32-3/ Brownes gate: *in italic script*

f 376\*

ffor the Overseeing of the Shewes to bee made before her *Maiestie* and to bee directors Mr Sowthworth Mr Godwyn and Mr Coward and they to giue allowance for the matter of the Shewes whether they bee fit or not And euery companie to bee Contributorie as they haue binne in tymes past to the shewes aforesaid.

The order and manner of the Shewes by the Masters and Wardens of euery trade & occupacion within the Cittie or Boroughe of [Wells] Welles as it Was presented before the Queenes *Maiestie* in Welles vppon ffridaie the xx<sup>th</sup> daie of Auguste Anno Domini 1613.

The ffirste  
companie

The Hammermen *which* were the Carpenters Ioyners Cowpers Mazons Tylers & Blackesmethes. And they presented. A Streamer with their armes and Noath buildinge the arke. Vulcan Worckinge at the fforge. Venus carried in a Charriott & [Cui] Cupid sittinge in her lapp with his bowe bent. A morrice daunce. The dragon *which* deuoured the virgins.

The second  
companie

The Shermen and Tuckers and they presented A streamer with their armes.

The third  
companie.

The Tanners Chaundlers and Butchers and they presented A Carte of old virgins the carte couered with hides and hornes and the virgins with their attires made of Cowtayles and bracelettes for their neckes of Hornes sawed and hanged about their neckes for rich Iewells Their charriott was drawne by men and boyes in Oxeskins calues skins and other skins.

St Clement their *Saint* rode alsoe with his booke And his ffrier rode alsoe who dealt his almes out of his *Masters* [(.)] Bagge *which* hee carried verie full of graynes verie plentifulle. Acteon with his Huntsmen.

The ffowerth  
companie

The Cordyners who presented St Crispian & (*blank*) both of them sonnes to a kinge and the youngest a shoemaker who married his Masters daughter they alsoe presented a morrice daunce and a Streamer with their armes.

The ffifth  
Companie

The taylors who presented A Streamer Herod and Herodias [ai] and the daughter of Herodias who daunced for St Iohn Baptistes hedd. St Iohn Baptiste beheaded.

The sixth  
companie

The Mercers who presented a Streamer. A Morrice daunce of Younge children The Giant and the Giancesse. Kinge Ptolomeus with his Queene & daughter *which* was to bee deuoured of the dragon. St George with his knightes who slew the dragon and rescued the virgin. Diana & her nymphes carried in a Charriott who turned Acteon to a Harte.

Memorandum alsoe that the same day there were invited to dynner with Mr William Bull then Mayor of Wells The Right *Honorable* the Earle of Worcester The Earle of Tumoth The Lord Buisshoppe of Bath and Wells Sir Thomas Somerset The Countesse of Darbie the Lady Cary The Lady Gray



The Lady Winzor the Lady Hatton The Lady Walshingham The fflower  
Maydes of Honor with other persons which came accordinglie except the  
Earle of Worcester.

f 377 (16 August)

5

...  
It is this day ordered and agreed that euery seuerall Companie within this  
towne shall make themselues readie accordinge to the auncient Orders and  
Customes to shew themselues before the Queenes Maiestie And that euery  
Companie and euery seuerall man within the Companie shall Contribute  
such somme and sommes of money towardes the said shewes as shalbee agreed  
vppon amongst themselues or in defalt of such agreement by them then by  
the greater parte of the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> vppon paine of imprisonment and there to  
lie/ till such seuerall rates bee payd and satisfied.

15

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 174

ff 82v-3\* (20 October)

*Proceedings of the court held before Dr James, in the presence of Edward Huishe,* 20  
*notary public*

...

[*contra dominum (blank)*] Swankin clericum.

On sonday 20 *septembris vltimi* being the day yat my lord bishopp did order  
ministers, hee the said Swankin went vnto the howse of George Talbott, &  
being drunken putt of his ministres coate, & putt on a tawnie coate of one  
Oliver Iames of welles aforesaid, and the said Iames putt on the said Swankins,  
and theare they in that manner did l daunce the more part of that after noone  
to the greate infamie & disgrace of his function & calling./ *vicarius generalis*  
*vult vt suspendatur &c/ et vt non restituatur vsque in eius redditum./ et per* 30  
*eundem./]*

...

**Letter of Antonio Foscari, Ambassador, to the Doge and Senate of Venice**

ASV: Senato, Secreta. Dispacchi, Inghilterra

35

f [1] (23 August)

Setenissimo Principe

Hauendo saputo per camino; che la Regina era passata da' bagni in questa  
Città; ui son uenuto à drittusa. hò ritrouato Sua Maestà accompagnata da  
quantità di Dame et Signori maggiore dell'ordinario e qui ridotta tutta la 40

nobiltà di questa prouincia, nella quale non essendo stato già mai il Rè  
 concorrono per ueder la Regina tutte le sorte di gente, et con ogni maggior  
 termine d'honore, et ossequio fan apparire, il contento di uederla. Feci hieri  
 riuerenza alla Maestà Sua, usando quelle parole di complimento per nome  
 dell'Eccellenze Vostre, che conueniua, a' quali corrispose piena et affettuosamente.  
 Mi dimandò poi della salute della Serenità Vostra; detto ch'io offrisca alle Signorie  
 Vostre Eccellentissime il suo seruitio, et passata ad altri piaceuoli ragionamenti l  
 hà uoluto, ch'io la serua tutto 'l giorno, nel quale ha ueduto giochi, caccie,  
 et in fine publiche rappresentationi cose tutte fatte a spese della Città, che  
 nel riceuer la Maestà Sua et ne' i pochi giorni, che ui si troua hà fatto tutto  
 quel più, che hà potuto. Nel passare dà luogo à luogo si uedeuan tutte le strade  
 piene di popolo, et udiuan uoci, che benediceuan, et augurauan prosperità à  
 Sua Maestà, che gli ringratiaua tutti, dando anco la mano à baciare à molti, che  
 lo faceuan con i ginocchi à terra, come pur staua la maggior parte del popolo  
 nel punto del passare. Mostra la Regina gran sodisfattione di questi honori,  
 che le son fatti, dello affetto, che le mostra ogn' uno, che in uero è grande.  
 Mi hà detto di restar loro molto obligata; et fermerà un mese, e mezo almeno  
 in queste parti; et si uede chiaro il gusto, che dà, et riceue grande ugualmente  
 in progresso di ragionamento, parlando di Scotia, che è uisciuta molto tempo  
 in quel regno, nel quale essendo passata di dodici anni, le pare in certo modo,  
 che sia quasi sua patria: ciò profrendo, et difondendosi con molto affetto.

Qui non u'è, chi uoglia sapere d'affari, ne di noue del mondo; solo s'attende  
 allegramente in Corte tre, e quattro uolte maggiore dell'ordinario à feste, et  
 conuiti. io mi son già licentiatto per poter continuare dimani mattina, come  
 farò il camino

Cità Di Vuells 2 settembre 1613

Di Vostra Serenità

Antonio Foscari Sal(...) An(...)

### 1613-14

#### *Corporation Act Book 3* WTH

f 384 (4 March)

It is ordered that whereas there haue diuerse Charges laid out by diuerse  
 Companies of this towne concerninge the shewes presented [befor] before the  
 Queenes Maiestie at her late beinge here whereof there be diuerse somes yet  
 remayninge vnpaid first that there shalbe a generall callinge of euery Company  
 to geve notice what their Charge haue been and how it haue it haue been taxed.  
 And if vppon consideracion had it shall then seeme fit that the Companies  
 haue ouercharged and cannot well noe more (blank) Then there shalbe a  
 contribucion made out of the Common live Lode as it shall then seeme fit

7/ ragionamenti: catchword on recto, not repeated on verso  
 25/ 2 settembre 1613: numerals underlined in MS, New Style date

32/ haue: for haue been  
 36/ it haue it haue: dittography

in the discretion of the Mayor Masters & burgesses or Companies And that such things *which* the Cominalitie shall pay for to brought into this house and laid vp vntill such tyme as farther occasion shalbe vsed for the same./

...

**Sessions Book 1** WTH

ff [176-6v]\* (12 September)

*Presentments by John Doddrell and Edward Hort, wardens of the shambles*

...

Qui presentant super sacramentum suum quod Robertus Smith de welles predictis Butcher xvj<sup>o</sup> die Octobris vltimi preteriti apud Welles predictas necuit vnum taurum et [eum] carnem eiusdem in aperto mercatu vendidit et [(. .)] quod dictus taurus non verberatus fuit secundum formam statuti

Et quod Robertus Thacker et Ricardus Alford <sup>1</sup>mortuus<sup>1</sup> et vterque eorum apud [ve] welles predictas viij<sup>o</sup> die Octobris vltimi preteriti [vendidit] necuerunt et vendiderunt vnum taurum [et non] separatim et non verberatus fuit secundum formam statuti.l

Et presentant quod lidem Ricardus et Robertus xv<sup>o</sup> die Octobris vltimi preteriti separatim necuerunt vnum taurum et carnem illius vendiderunt apud welles predictas et non verberavit illum secundum formam statuti.l

...

**Cordwainers' Account Book** SRO: DD/SAS SE 50/1  
f [29]\* (25 October) (Allowances)

...

Itm layd out when her maiestie Came to wells as by to severell billes it doth apere

vj li. j s. j d. 30

...

f [29v]\*

...

Iohn Eddicot aloences

Itm payd to Iohn Crese towards his charges when the quenes maiesties came to wells

v s. 35

...

Item dealivered to phillipp stille in mony

ij s. iiij d.

2/ to brought: *for* to be brought

11/ Robertus Smith: *underlined in MS*

23/ verberavit: *for* verberaverunt

29, 36/ Itm: *for* Itm; *abbreviation mark missing*

35/ Iohn Eddicot: *the Cordwainers' new master*

1614-15

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTH

f 405\* (7 April)

...

It is ordered that the generall Receivor shall pay vnto Mr william Bull the some of ix li. ix s. by him laid out as it appeareth by his bill now red & shewed at this Convocacion that Mr Coward and the said Receivor will take the paines to Collect in to their handes such thinges as the Company of the Mercers haue not yet spent in their late shew before the Queenes Maiestie to be safely kept vnto the vse of the towne if they haue any further occasion to vse them

...

*Sessions Book 1* WTH

f [180v] (9 January)

*Presentment by John Cooke and John Alford, wardens of the shambles*

Qui venerunt et presentant quod david Colliwood<sup>1</sup> mortuus<sup>1</sup> de welles predictis Butcher Michael Alford de eisdem Bucher et Willelmus davis de eisdem Butcher [in festo die sancti Iacobi apostoli ss' xx] xj<sup>o</sup> die Novembris vltimi preteriti apud Welles predictas in Comitatu predicto necuerunt et vendiderunt et quilibet eorum necuit et vendidit [vnum] carnem tauri anglice Bulles fleshe et non tauros nec taurum sic interfectos [priusq] et venditos priusquam verberauerint nec verbeavit secundum formam statuti in huiusmodi Casu editi et provisi./

...

f [185]\* (17 April)

...

Cognitio 4<sup>o</sup> Septembris 1615. et ffinitus ad v s.

Iuratores pro domino Rege presentant quod Thomas Millerd nuper de welles predictis in Comitatu predicto Butcher vicessimo die ffebruarij. Anno Regni domini nostri Iacobi Regis Anglie &c. duodecimo apud welles predictas in Comitatu predicto vendidit Carnem insalubrem. scilicet Carnem tauri antequam verberatus fuit anglice bayted contra pacem dicti domini Regis et ad graue nocuementum ligeorum dicti domini Regis.

Billa vera/

...

Welles Ciuitas  
siue burgus in  
Comitatu  
Somerset

**Cordwainers' Account Book** SRO: DD/SAS SE 50/1

f [32]\* (25 October)

...

Item Reaseaued more in goods that ovr *master* Iohn Bvkstone hathe in his  
 kvstody The wiche was bovghte to make the shove for the *master* shovmakers  
 againste the qveans<sup>1</sup>ane<sup>1</sup> Cvmminge to wells wiche was shoven before qveane  
 ane the twentye day of avgvste 1613 of ovr Kings Raine The whole historie  
 of Krispie and Krispianie was shovne of twellfe *master* shovmakers and Thertie  
 and fovr Ivnie men Iohn Creas then beainge *master* of ovr Kvmpany for that  
 year and Iohn Cornis warden withe him.

Vertue Hunte	Richard holbroke	10
--------------	------------------	----

Iohn bvkstone	Iohn Eddicott	
---------------	---------------	--

Iohn Cornis	Thomas wickvm	
-------------	---------------	--

Iohn Isacke	Iohn morgen	
-------------	-------------	--

Leanell donkettun	Charells yeavens	15
-------------------	------------------	----

Thomas peaters		
----------------	--	--

and thos that Charried the shovmakers armes whose nams bee thes  
 Isacke [m] naibers the shovmakers arms & Richarde Cassellbroke the streamer  
 and phillipp still the Gilley laste and Iohn [(.)] Eddicott beinge Crispieanus  
 and Iohn Ions beinge Crispian[eus] beinge bothe shovmakers svnes and the  
 ladie vssile beinge marthae hvnte a shovmakers dafter and marie bvkstone  
 beinge nvrs vnto the lady vssilies Childe beinge a shovmakers daster and all  
 thos parsons made a moste famos shove & it was well liked withe all

The vinintorie of The goods is

The ladis vrssilis [L] Crovne

The *master* shovmakers stafe & arms

The streamer and stafe and the Gilley leste and stafe Crispine b[... ] [.]

briches and Iackett & Crispianvs Iackett and one Gorgett

[& (...)]

and v Iacketes for [v] five footmen

**Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 189

f 291 (28 March)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before*  
*Francis James, LL.D., vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*  
*and registrar*

...

*Officium domini contra Thomam Peeters cordewyner*

6/ Cvmminge: 8 minus in MS

11/ Vertue Hunte: probably a signature

22/ daster: for dafter

4 Aprilis

denuntiatur domino Iudicanti yat hee kepte tipling and disorderlie drinking and minstrelsy in his howse vppon sonday the xxx<sup>th</sup> day of october last past all the tyme of evening prayer, and also on the fest day of all Saintes nowe last past, insomuche that the parishners going to and from the churche heard the misrule, and muche disliked the same./ Mr Woodes: vnus Inquisitorum./ Citetur in proximum./

...

## 1615-16

*Sessions Book 1* WTH

f [190] (8 January 1615/16)

*Presentment by Walter Brit and Giles Spratt, wardens of the shambles*

...

- Item presentant quod Iohannes doddrell 'Exoneratur pro insufficiencia presentacionis 2<sup>o</sup> Septembris 1616' et Iohannes Alford 'Exoneratur pro insufficiencia presentacionis 2<sup>o</sup> 7bris 1616' necuerunt vnum taurum xv<sup>to</sup> die Septembris vl<sup>imi</sup> antea verberatum fuit anglice before he was bayted/

- 2 Et presentant Thomam Strotten 'Exoneratur 2<sup>o</sup> Septembris 1616' pro Consimili eodem compertorie

...

*Examination of Angelo Nodaro* ASV: Inquisitori di Stato, Busta 155  
f iij (12 February)

...

tutti intesi sopra il 39 se sà che l'ambasciator foscari<sup>n</sup>i habbia indiscretamente trattato con la Regina d'Inghilterra quando andò à uisitarla per il uiaggio di Scotia. risposta Hò. intesj se ne hà inteso à parlare. risposta mi souiene che nella Città di Velles il Signor 'Ambasciator' doppo essersi licentiatto dal Rè, andò à uisitar la Regina, la qual essendo per il tempo caldo uestita con una ueste tagliata et che la camisa uscìua dalli tagli delle maniche, il Signor ambasciator ragionando con essa del uestir del paese, toccò con due dita la camisa che uscìua fuori di quei tagli lodandola per bella, il che il muscorno disse, che facesse per toccarli le carni, et ui fabricò sopra. intesj se si potesse accorgere che Sua Maestà e a loro che fossero presenti prendessero dispiacere da questa attione. risposta Signor no, perche ueramente non poteua hauerne dispiacere. intesj chi fossero presenti risposta de quelli ch'erano col Signor ambasciator non uì era altri che il muscorno, et io, aggiungendo che se la Regina fosse

15/ Iohannes doddrell: *underlined in MS*16/ Iohannes Alford: *underlined in MS*18/ verberatum: *for verberatus*20/ Thomam Strotten: *underlined in MS*21/ compertorie: *for compertorio(?)*

restata disgustata non haria menato il *Signor ambasciator* con Loro seco à ueder una caccia de tori, come fece.

...

### 1616-17

*Bill of Complaint in Bonde v. Walton et al* PRO: STAC 8/55/25  
single mb\* (19 May)

...The said Richard Walton and the rest of his riotous Consortes did lately assemble themselues together att a Tauerne in the Towne of wells in ye said County of Somerset where in a mocking and scoffing manner they made often mencion of *your subiectes* name how they had wronged and abused him in manner as aforesaid And were knowing that the Maior and Recordor of the said Towne were then att *your* Cittie of London whereby the said Riotours mought doe what they would with the more impunitie The said Richard Walton and his said Complices did apparell one of their Company being by trade a shoemaker with a Taffata Cloke and other apparrell of him the said Richard Walton and caused the said shomaker to walke vpp & downe the streete of the said Towne in such disguised manner they the said Richard Walton and his said Adherentes following after him as his Attendants & putting of their hattes and making (.....) vnto him Calling him by the style of Lord and intreating him by the Terme of his Lordshipp to bee good vnto them & 'nott' to bee to severe against them on *your subiectes* behalf...

...

### 1617-18

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTH  
f 425 (16 December)

Wheras the Musitions haue bene heretofore allowed xl s. *per Annum* and Coates for livery once in two yeares And for soe much as there ar not a Compotent number present to decide the same The Consideracion is hereof respited as yet

...

f 426 (8 June)

...

In Regard the Towne hath diuerse occasions to vse mony It is ordered ... That the Musitions shall not hereafter haue the allowance of xl s. *per Annum* but onely theyer Coates vntill farther order be thervppon had And that it shalbe lawfull for them to take theyer profit at christemas

...

## 1621-2

*General Act Book for Dean's Peculiar* SRO: D/D/Ca 225  
f 7v\* (21 February)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before William Rogers, MA, the dean's surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

dinder

...  
*Officium domini contra Hentricum hodes*

7 Marcij

Denunciatur domino iudicanti quod suspicatur de incontinentia cum quadam Ioanna Hix de Sowthouer parochie Sancti Cuthberti, Wellensis nupta that hee and the said Ioane hix laie in bedd togeathers within this halfe yeare last past or theare aboutes & in the night shee arose leaving him asleape tooke his monie which hee had aboute v s. and gott her to a staige playe: And that anon after her husband came home, and findinge the doare locked, knocked to come in, but one of his neighbors told him that his wief was gon to a staige playe./

That with his knocking the said Hedges awoake and found a candle burninge in the chamber, hee tooke the candle, and went downe thinkinge to haue gon forthe into the streate, and findinge the doare locked, he went forthe the backe way, and was pusselde and could not finde the way a good whiles to get forthe, but in the end hee was mett in the streate neere aboute midnichte by Thomas Casberd, and others of Wells aforesaid.

That hee makinge seewte for his mony she paid all backe againe but ij d. Quodque desuper laboravit, et in presenti laborat publica vox et fama &c./ Kingel Quesitus fuit per eundem mandatarium 20<sup>o</sup> die instantis ffebruarij &c super quo fidem fecit &c Quo die <sup>o</sup>dominus decreuit dictum Hodges [cui dominus o] citandum fore personaliter si &c, alioquin v(...) & modis etc in proximum./<sup>o</sup>

## 1622-3

*Corporation Act Book 3* WTH  
f 456 (27 February)

And it is likewise condiscented that the musitioners shalbe allowed Coates which mony master Mayor is well contented to disburse & to take allowance for the same at the next Accompt And he is contented to lay out mony for the Serieantes gownes vntill the next Accompt.

...



1624-5

**Corporation Act Book 4** WTH

f 180 (21 December)

...

It is this day Condiscented that the Musitioners shall haue new Coates<sup>5</sup> bought  
 [ & ]<sup>1</sup> [made ready] for them against Christmas next But they ar to be at the  
 charges for the makeing & trymming of the same Coates The Coates that are  
 to be provided ar for vj persons viz Iohn Nash & Henry Loxston & iijer of  
 theyer boyes And the Quantitie of Cloath [ ( . . ) about vij yardes ] which they  
 ar to haue is about viij yardes

10

...

1633/4

**Bishop's Court Deposition Book** SRO: D/D/Cd 78f [2v]\* (24 March) (*Deposition of Israel Kingston of Ditchett, husbandman*) 15*Taken before Mr Hunt*

...

Ad detectionem predictam in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit  
 et dicit [q] that on a certaine daie hapning neere about this tyme twelve  
 monethes [this] as he nowe remembreth the tyme this deponent being talking  
 with Ralph Haines in the churchyard of ditchett with manie others of his  
 [ney] neighbors & amongst the talkes [ & ] then and there vsed he hard the  
 detected Ralph Haines to saie & reporte that [1] my lord Curle the then  
 bishopp of Bathe & Wells was blinde & did not vnderstand the scripture [for  
 tha] in respect he suffered maypoles to be sett vpp in the Towne of wells. Et  
 aliter nescit deponere saving that there were at the tyme & place abouesaid  
 at the hearing of the premisses his fellowe witnes <sup>2</sup> [william Ewens] & william  
 dorvell of the parishe of ditchett aforsaid with manie others whome he  
 remembre( . . ) not at this present tyme

30

Signum

Israel IK Kingston

...

5/ Musitioners: 4 minims for M in MS

30/ remembre(. .): edge of leaf crumbled

32/ 1K: Kingston has signed with his personal mark

1633-4

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 70

ff 123-3v (20 December)

*Before Henry Foster, mayor, and Bartholomew Cox, gentlemen, jps*

...

The Informacion of Thomas Pecke of Wells papermaker against Thomas Peete a lugler and others for the felonious takeinge away of fflower Ruffes who saith that on Wensday last his wife beinge a laundresse she havinge washed fflower Ruffes and hanginge them vppon her hedge in Tucker streeete they were stolne away and after vppon search Made they were found in the howse of Thomas Wills an[.] Inkeeper in the custody of Luce Browne a *servaunt* of the said Thomas Wills which said Luce affirmeth that she had them of the said Thomas Peete And the said Thomas Peete saith that he had them of George Hill sonne of Iohn Hill livinge at Recliffe gate in Bristoll.

And the said George Hill saith that the said Peete beinge in his companie in Wells aforesaid on Wensday last did walke a circuite about the Towne purposely to see if they could finde anie hedge of clothes or other booty; and the said Peete perceavinge certaine clothes vppon the hedge of the said Thomas Peck directed the [said Hill] [examinat] to fetch and bringe them away vp to the white Lyon where he would be to receive them. And there the said [Hill] Peete meetinge the said Hill tooke the bandes of him and gave the said Hill xij d. and then deliuered the said bandes to the said Luce Browne and bid her lay them vp for him/

The said George Hill and Luce Browne haveinge heard this Informacion read doe confesse that as much as [.] is conteyned in the said Informacon that doth concerne them is true.

And the said George Hill doth farther confesse that he hath travelled with the said Peete by the space of this fortnight from Bristoll to Bridgewater and soe to Taunton and in Bridgewater in an eveninge [...] Peete caused this examinat to steale a pare of stoc[...] from a shop window for the said Peete he beinge then with this examinat and holdinge vp his coate betweene the candle light and the st[...]ckins And the said Peete the next day did weare the said stockins and within Two dayes sold the said stockines at Lamport for [...] xij d.

9/ Wensday last: 18 December  
21/ the: corrected from this

28/ Informacon: for Informacion; abbreviation mark missing  
33/ [...]: tear in sheet; 22mm missing

And this examinat farther saith that in the tyme of the travellinge the *said* Peetle did name himselfe by three names in Lamport Thomas Williams and before at weare nere Axbridge Thomas Clarke and at Wells Thomas Peetle and as he travelleth he doth vse Iuglinge and promised this examinat to teach him and make him perfect in Iuglinge./

5

The *said* Thomas Peetle beinge examined saith that he hath travelled with the *said* Hill ever since Tewesday last was sennight from Bristoll to Weare from thence to Bridgewater from thence to Taunton and from Taunton to Lamport and from Lamport to Wells, But he denieth that he did perswade the *said* Hill to steale the *said* Ruffes onelye he confesseth that he had the *said* Ruffes of the *said* Hill and deliuered the *said* Ruffes to the *said* Luce Browne to laie them vp and that the *said* Hill told this examinat that he had [h] found the *said* Ruffes and farther this examinat cannot declare And this examinat deliuered the *said* Hill xij d. at the tyme that he [had] had the ruffes of him/

10

15

(signed) Henrye Foster Maior.

...

*Letter of Mayor of Wells to Mayor of Exeter* DRO: G1/X1/Letter Book 60E  
single sheet (12 September)

20

fforasmuch as Henry Loxton the sonne of Henry Loxton of Wells in the County of Somerset hath this day come before vs Henry ffoster maior of the Cittie or Borough of Wells aforesaid, Iohn Baber Esquior Recorder of the said City or Borough, and Bartholomew Coxo gentleman one of the masters of the said City Three of his Maiesties Iustices of the peace within the said City or Borough, and hath given vs to understand that he intendeth to travell to the City of Exon' in the County of Devon there to inhabite and to vse his said profession of a musitian, and hath humbly desired and requested our certificate of his good abearinge within this *said* City of Wells, to the intent that he maie be the sooner entertained there; These are to certifie those whom it maie concerne that the said Henry Loxton was borne within this said Cittie or Borough of Wells and here hath ever since lived with his said ffather and mother and behaved himselfe very honestly and civilly, for all that we ever know or heard; and we conceave him to be well experienced in his said

25

30

35

3, 8/ weare, Weare: village 2 miles southwest of Axbridge

8/ Tewesday last was sennight: 10 December

14/ cannot: 3 minims in MS

profession, And therefore: these are as much as in vs lyeth to desire the right worshipfull the maior and Aldermen of the said City of Exon' to doe <sup>^</sup>him<sup>^</sup> anie lawfull favour concerning his vsing his said profession <sup>^</sup>within ye said City<sup>^</sup> he humbly desiring the same./ And for the better testimony hereof We the [r(. )] said Maior and Iustices have herevnto set *our* handes and seale[s] of Maioraltie of the said Cittie or Borough the Twelveth day of September 1634/

(signed) Henrye ffoster maior  
Iohn Baber  
Bartholomew Cox

## 1634-5

*Archbishop's Visitation Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 297  
ff [295v-6]\*

Officium domini contra Richardum Lovell

[Si] Similiter presentatur per eosdem for heweinge and trimmeinge of a maypole vppon a sabbath daie in the moreninge when the bell tolled to prayer, and that the May [Pop] pole was sett vpp before eveninge prayer contrarie to his Maiesties Declaracion And that there was a drumbe beate vpp att the settinge vpp of the maypole./

9: 24:

4: *Novembris*  
*receptum* 12 d.

25<sup>o</sup> [2]  
*Novembris*

27: Octobris: 1634: coram eisdem loco predicto: Quesitus per eundem eodem die etc. Quo die dominus decrevit (*blank*)

4<sup>o</sup> Novembris: 1634: loco consistoriali Glaston', coram magistris Francisco Wood, & Willelmo Hunt clericis &c, comparauit, & fassus est presentamentum &c/ Vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad agnoscendum eius culpam coram toto cetu post lectionem evangelij vestibus consuetis &c, & ad certificandum &c

25: Novembris 1634: introducta schedula &c, cum certificario &c.

Officium domini contra Iohannem Mayne

Similiter presentatur per eosdem ffor playing vppon their Instrumentes att the Bower before eveninge prayer contrarie to his Maiesties declaracion

14: d. dimissio +

4: *Novembris*

27: Octobris 1634: loco consistoriali Glaston', coram magistris Willelmo Hunt, & Francisco Wood surrogatis &c, comparuit, & obiecto presentamento &c, respondet, & fassus est presentamentum &c Vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad agnoscendum eius culpam coram ministro, gardianis, & 12 Alijs &c, & ad certificandum./

dimissio

4: Novembris 1634: introducta schedula &c, cum certificario &c

Officium domini contra Iohannem Stockes

*Similiter presentatur vt supra./.*

4: *Novembris:*

27: [Off] Octobris 1634: *comparuit, & similiter.*

*Officium domini contra Henricum Loxton*

*Similiter presentatur vt supra*

27<sup>o</sup>: *Octobris 1634 loco consistoriali Glaston', coram magistro Willelmo Hunt clerico surrogato &c, comparuit, & fassus est presentamentum &c: Vnde dominus eidem iniunxit ei ad agnoscendum eius culpam coram ministro, gardianis, & 12: alijs &c, ad certificandum &c*

4: *Novembris 1634: introducta schedula &c, cum certificario &c.*

*Officium domini contra Nathanielem Ienninges*

*Similiter presentatur vt supra./.*

27: *Octobris: 1634: Similiter actum fuit./.*

...

## 1636-7

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 84

ff [218v-19]\* (24 July) (*Deposition of William West, innkeeper, aged 41*)

*Taken before William Hunt, cleric, surrogate judge, in his home in the presence of Alexander Jett, notary public*

...

Ad secundum articulum dicti libelli in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinatus deponit et dicit that on Sonndaie the one & twentieth daie of Maie now last past before this his examination (as this deponent now remembreth the tyme) after Candle lighting [vppon] <sup>^</sup>about<sup>^</sup> nine or tenn of the Clock att nighte, this deponent this deponents wief, Cornelius Watts & his wief & Thomas Midleham all of wells aforesaid being togeather in a litle roome by the Sella(.) of the said Cornelius Watts, within the Inn [c] in wells aforesaid commonlie called the signe of the Catherine Wheale in Wells, of which Inne Iohn Gibbons husband of the l defendant was & is owner and Liver in, the said Dennis being then and theare alsoe presen(.) in came to the said roome Iohn Chick of Wells aforesaid and his wief Cicillie Chick with hi(.) & <sup>^</sup>they came into the said roome without sending for, & the said Iohn Chick vppon his comming in to the said roome said to this deponent, maste(.) I heere saie you are angrie with me, & this deponent told him, that this deponent was not well pleased with him in doeing, as he did, for quoth this deponent you told me you would goe forth of towne that daie you should be att Iohn Hills att ffeast & you of purpose did keepe a feast to Crosse [vpp] vs being of the companie & sent for the musick from vs, or to that effecte...

...

## WEST BRADLEY

1632

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 283

ff 49-9v\* (3 July)

Officium domini contra Davidem Warfeilde  
 Denunciatur domino Iudicanti that hee kepte daunceinge in his howse, and  
 did sell beere in the whitson holidayes last att prayer time. Mr. L: williams  
 po: Citatus fuit per Edwardum Greene mandatorium &c. 27: Iunij vltimi ibidem 10  
 &c: super quo fidem fecit &c Quo die comparuit, & iuratus (blank)

Officium domini contra Aliciam eius uxorem  
 Pro eodem delicto/  
 Similiter &c: quoad certorium &c. Quo die (blank) 15

Officium domini contra Stephanum Gregorie [iuniore] seniore  
 Denunciatur domino Iudicanti that hee beeing churchwarden[s] was  
 po: daunceinge in the said Warfeildes howse, or some other [h] place vppon 20  
 whitsonday last, or Trinitie sonday last/.  
 Similiter &c: quoad certorium &c: Quo die comparuit, & iuratus (blank)

Officium domini contra Willelmum Waker  
 Pro eodem delicto./  
 po: Similiter etc quoad certorium &c Quo die comparuit, & iuratus (blank) 25

Officium domini contra Susannam eius uxorem  
 Pro eodem delicto/  
 po: Similiter &c quoad certorium &c Quo die (blank) 30  
 ...

1639

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 330

f 163\* (22 October)

Officium domini contra Georgium Pyeper vnum gardianorum ibidem  
 Notatur: That <sup>9/</sup>about Lammas tide last<sup>1</sup> he brought into, or at least caused  
 29 Octobris to be brought into the Churchyard a beare and lodged him in the church  
 house that night neare one Elizabeth Dawe an old woeman, insomuch that  
 she being greevouslie frided lay all that night on the boordes through feare  
 of her life: Then the next daie he caused the same beare to be lead thorough 40

9/ the whitson holidayes last: 20-2 May

20/ whitsonday last, or Trinitie sonday last: 20 or 27 May

the churchyard two, or three times with dogges att her heeles./ Humfries  
Citetur

...

## WESTBURY

5

1603

*Draft Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 135

f [20]\* (14 April)

10

*Proceedings of the court held before Francis James, vicar general, in his house in  
the presence of Robert Owen, notary public*

[*contra* Thomam houlder Cum Barbara Browning filia Iohannis Browning de  
eadem. They did play the mummers by night, and hee ware her clothes &  
shee ware his, & hee trust her breeches and setled her clotheis playine in her  
breeches, hee resorteth to her at her fathers howse.]

Citetur in proximum./

...

20

1605

*Deposition Book for Dean's Peculiar* SRO: D/D/Cd 28

See Wedmore 1605

25

## WEST COKER

1617

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 201

f 118\* (1 April)

30

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before  
Anthony Methwyn, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe,  
notary public*

...

*contra* Richardum Millerd

35

Iuratus respondet et fassus est yat on the said sabbaoth this examinate did in  
the afternoone play att the request of twoe young gentlewomen play 2. or 3.  
lessons vppon his vyoll att their request, but denyeth that [hee d] they did  
daunce & that hee was att church the forenoone att service, but not at

40

evening praier, and doth not perfectly knowe whether hee played at evening prayer tyme or not/ *et cum monicione decernitur dimittendum &c/ et habet ad solvendum feodum eius in 29. instantis Aprilis./*

...

## WEST HATCH

1602

*Quarter Sessions Indictments* SRO: Q/SI 6, pt 1

f 41 (30 June)

*Jury presentment for North Curry hundred at Taunton sessions*

...

Item wee ffarther presente that there [is] was a Bulb(.).yt(.).(.).pt a(.). ale or bere sold by one Mychaell Hoyte of westhatch the xix<sup>th</sup> daye of maye nowe 15 last pas(.). & sithence

1621

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 38

f 94\*

...

The Church Wardens of westhatche confessed that they begane to sell ale at whitsuntyd and contynued selling vntill the xij<sup>th</sup> of Iune and the had a bulbaytinge./

## WESTON ZOYLAND

1607

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 2

f 7v\* (Before September 1607) (Articles charged against Robert Wolfall, incumbent of Weston, by John Cornishe, carpenter)

...

- 9: Item that Mr <sup>^</sup>william<sup>1</sup> wolfall, beinge the Sonn of Mr Robert wolfall, and beinge elected, and Chosen to be the Robin hoode as theye Call it at weston for their parishe Alle, by the Consent, good <sup>^</sup>will<sup>1</sup> & free disposition of 35

1/ forenoone: corrected from afternoone(?)

15/ Bulb(.).yt(.).(.).pt a(.).: 50mm of MS damaged

23/ whitsuntyd: 20-2 May

23/ the<sup>2</sup>: for then; abbreviation mark missing



himselfe, was taken, by his said sonn, Mr william wolfall,/ and preferred to the highest Roome, in the Stockes, as the Mann most worthy of such A place And diverse, other moore imprisoned with him in the Stockes, and their fyne, and Ransome, for the deliverye out of the Stockes, was each Man, Severallye, to take his twoe pottes of Stronge Alle, and to drynke of the same, ffor soe was 5 Mr Wolfalls decree, he begining first, being Cheife Actor of that Comedye, and everye Manne holding his legg in the Stockes, duringe the tyme they weare drinking, their ij pottes of stronge alle/

10: Item Mr wolfall the sundaye after Ascention daye, last, at Morninge prayer, presentlye after the second lesson, put of his Surplusse, and willed his 10 parishioners to departe, and followe Robin hoode, accordinge to their auncient Custome, to the Alle, and to breakfast with him, and gave them libertye soe to doe the Most parte of An howre, and then Came to the Church, and begann the service at the tenn Comandementes/.

...

15

## WEST PENNARD

1586

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 73

20

f [79] (8 July)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory of Wells before John Daye, LL.D, vicar general*

...

25

Officium domini contra Iohannem ffry de West pennard  
Quo die comparuit personaliter dictus Iohannes ffry Cui dominus obiecit that he being churchwarden did kepe and meyteyne vpon the Saboath daies this sommer a certen church ale to the prophanation of the sabaoth daie in dating typling and dauncing &c [q] Qui respondendo fatetur that an ale was kept 30 according to ancient custome and that no dores were kept open in the tyme of devyne seruice Aliter submittendo se &c vnde dominus iniunxit ei quod peniteat se &c deinde dominus ex consensu dicti Iohannis ffry commutauit penitenciam huiusmodi in pecuniarum solucionem viz quod soluat pixidi pauperum iij s. iiij d. de pecunia sua propria [inter] ad vsum [d] pauperum 35 dicte parochie &c inter pauperes dividendos &c et ad certificandum in isto die ad septimanam/

...

3/ in: written over l

9/ the sundaye after Ascention daye, last: 17 May

28/ meyteyne: for meynyteyne; abbreviation mark missing

**Bishop's Court Deposition Book** SRO: D/D/Cd 21f [60]\* (12-19 July) (*Deposition of John Shepard, husbandman, aged 46*)

...

Ad primum articulum examinatus iste deponens in vim iuramenti sui prestiti dicit et deponit That about Whitsontyde last past as he nowe remembreth he this deponent beinge by chaunce in the Church howse of West pennard amongst diuers his honest neighbors there assembled to make mery togethers amongst whom Mr Iohn Cowarde one of the parishioners there likewise than presente hapned than and there to read a certaine abhominable lybell in the hearing of this deponent and the rest of the companie in which [no] there was no mention made of any person whatsoever...

...

f [61]\* (12 July) (*Examination of Agnes White, servant*)

...

Ad primum articulum examinatus iste deponens in vim iuramenti sui prestiti dicit et deponit That [abo] betwene easter and whitsontyde last past this deponent goinge in companie with Agnes Gee and Isabell Cooke dwellinge within the said parishe to geither rushes against whitsontyde the said Isabell Cooke songe a certaine ballade which was a verie badd and lewde thinge not to be heard of any body for that it was an abhominable thinge and toulde the said Isabell than that she might either vse better songes than those or ells to sing none at all very for shame which song was reported to be devised by the said Thomas Deanes but whether the said Thomas deanes did make or devise the same libell or songe or procured yt to be donne she this deponent cannot pose

...

**1635****Ex Officio Act Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 302

ff 55-5v (12 May)

*Proceedings of the court held in the consistory before William Hunt, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Alexander Jett, notary public*

...

Contra Iacobum Peirce 1<sup>o</sup> loco

Robert Champion

Henrie Duncckerton

ffor playing att fives in the churchyard there against the wall

5/ Whitsontyde last past: 22-8 May

7/ assembled: for assembled

16/ examinatus iste: for examinata ista

17/ betwene ... past: 3 April-22 May

23/ very for shame: for for very shame(?)

*Iuratus &c respondet* [that he hath heeretofore within] *et negavit deteccionem esse veram &c vnde dominus decrevit inquisitionem fieri etc.*]

*contra* Iacobum Peirce 2<sup>o</sup> loco

*Iuratus &c respondet et fassus est famam publicam &c & that theare haue byn songs made vppon them aboute the same: vnde dominus iniunxit ei ad purgandum se 4<sup>ta</sup> manu vicinorum suorum fide dignorum parochianorum ibidem habita proclamacione etc*

...

10

## WHITCHURCH

1603

*Draft Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 135

f [48v] (1 June)

15

*Proceedings of the court held in the house of John Chepman in Bath before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

[*contra* Willelmum Battin

20

[S] ffor saying yat bishopps haue no auctoritie

ffor keeping of dauncing in his howse at tyme of chatechizing on ye sabaoth day the vj<sup>th</sup> of ffebruarie.

*Citetur in proximum.*]

25

## WINCANTON

1628/9

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 64

f [28] (27 February) (*Examination of Margaret Usher, aged 68*)

30

*Taken before Richard Leire and Robert Williams, clerics, commissaries, in a room in the inn called the Sign of the White Hart in Wincanton, before Alexander Jett, notary public*

...

35

*Ad primum articulum exceptionum predictarum in vim iuramenti sui prestiti examinata[.] deponit et dicit that this deponent a<sup>well</sup> [hath] know[n]eth Margerie Safe a witnes produced, sworne & examined in this cause on the behalfe of Iames Churchaie the elder, Iames Churchaie the younger, and Anne his wief & soe hath for manie yeeres past, & sayeth that shee hath byn and is accompted & reputed amongst [the] diuers honest parishners of wincaunton*

40

aforesaid to bee a wooman of noe creditt and reputation, And one that to this deponents certaine knowledg very seldome frequenteth her parishe Church att the tyme of divine service: And that to this deponentes knowledg the said Margerie Safe when shee was a younge wooman shee behaued her self wantonlie, [and w] in dauncsing & in keeping Idle companie: Et aliter deponere nescit/

...

## WINSCOMBE

1607

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 155

f 216v\* (22 October)

10

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

15

...

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Wattes seniore*

27 octobris

Hee selling ale is a verie negligent resorter to the churche on sabbaoth dayes tempore diuinorum. And att evening prayer tyme hee vsuallie keepeth dauncing, bowling, and other disorders in the tyme of evening prayer tyme on the sabbaoth day. Mengh. 20

Similiter etc./

1632

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 283

f 91 (31 July)

25

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Arthur Duck, LL.D*

30

Berrowe

*Officium domini contra Iohannem Combe*

7: Augusti

Denunciatur domino Iudicanti that hee doth vsuallie absent himselfe from his parishe churche vpon saboath dayes tempore diuinorum, & goeth to other parishes to play beeing a musitioner, and that hee was absent as aforesaid on sonday 22: Iulij instantis, & played att Samford within the parishe of Winscombe/ Backwell/ 35

Quesitus fuit per Iohannem Backwell mandatarium &c: 26: Iulij instantis ibidem &c. Super quo fidem fecit &c: Quo die dominus decrevit. (blank)

31m/ Berrowe: parish 5.5 miles southwest of Winscombe

34/ that: at corrected over (...)s

35/ Samford: Sandford, hamlet 2 miles north of Winscombe

Officium *domini contra* Thomam Cowbrooke

Pro eodem delicto././.

Similiter &c: quoad certorium &c: Quo die similiter.

...

Augusti

5

## WINSHAM

1624

*Bill of Complaint in Collins v. Staple* PRO: STAC 8/88/7 item [2]  
single mb\* (13 November)

10

...

...And fullie resolving themselves that your said *subiect* diswaded the said Ann, or benn some meanes, or hinderance vnto them, or either of them in their, and either of their said intent and purpose of marriage with the saide Ann as aforesaid did therevpon conceive a most deepe, vndereserved, and vnappesable malice against your saide *subiect*, And in revenge thereof did at Wimsome aforesaid in or about the sixteenth day of May in the twoe and twentithe yeare of your highnes most gracious raigne over this your Realme of England, Combine, Conspire, practise, and confederate together with the said Iohn Hawker, Richard Hawker vnckle vnto the saide Ann as aforesaid. And to and with divers and sondrie other lewd, desperate, wicked, and evill disposed persons to your said *subiect* as yett vnknowne whose names he humbly praieth may bee inserted into this bill, and bee made parties therevnto soe soone as they shalbe discovered how and in what manner with most calumnious, and slaunderous speeches, and reports they might not onely out of their spitfull, and maliciouse purposes, and vncharitable resolutions for the false pretences, and fayned Causes aforesaid bring your said *subiect* being a man of good repute, and estimation amongst his neighbors, and the inhabitants neere adioyning vnto him into great discreditt, ignomie, and reproache, But alsoe how they might with many extraordinarie threats, menaces, and Challenges to fight soe scare, affright, and terrifie your said *subiect* ... on or about the said sixteeneth daye of May in the saide twoe and twentieth yeare of your Maiesties said Raigne make, contrive, and invent divers, and sundrie reproachefull, scandalous, and infamous libells of and concerning your saide *subiect* both in verse, and prose as well in words, as in writinge, And did likewise consult, devise, and conclude together faleslie, libellouslie, and most maliciouslie as well bie wicked speeches, as alsoe by infamous writings to publishe, divulge, and spread abroad the same by slaunderous reports, and rumors in divers, and sundrie places in your saide Countie to such effect and purpose as followeth vizt That your said *subiect* had formerlie lived, and at the tyme aforesaid did live very suspiciouslie, and incontinentlie with divers, and sundrie women, and had to and for that purpose promised

manie summes of monie, whereby your said subiect was become mutch indebted vnto them. According to *which* Combination, Conclusion, and agreement the said Confederates on or about the tyme abovementioned did in fact divulge, scatter, spread abroad, and publishe the same malicious, scandalous, and infamous libells not onelie att Winsome aforesaide, But alsoe in manie other places els where both farre and neere as well amongst strangers, as alsoe, and cheiflie amongst the better sorte of your said subiects neighbors, kinsfolkes, and frennds, inhabiting neere vnto your saide subiect of meere malice, hatred, and purpose to bring him into extraordinarie obloquie, and reproache, ffor the better accomplishment of their desire wherein the saide Confederates on or about the saide sixteenth daie of Maye in the saide twoe and Twentieth yeare of your said raigne did further in a most scandalous disgracefull, and libellous manner both in rymes, and prose publishe divulge, reporte, and spread abroad by balletts, Rymes, songs, and other infamous speeches most faleslie, and vntrulie in the hearing of divers of your maiesties subiects to this effect That is to saie, That the saide Confederates had seene your said subiect, and the said Ann verie suspiciouslie together in a certaine wood or grove Called Mawdlines grove being the grownd of the said William Alford And that your said subiect soe soone as he had espied the said William Staple did verie privilie creepe vnder the bushes then and there groweing in the said grove, And soe rann away over the grownds next there vnto adioyning. Nether soe herewith Contented, But still contynueing in their false, and forged imputations, aspersions, and accusations against your said subiect, The said Confederates, and their saide Complices both knowne, and vnknowne being all together with divers other of your highness subiects att an ale howse in Winsome aforesaid there making merry did openlie in the hearing of all the persons then and there present, and assembled being Twentie in number at the least in an opprobrious, and reproachefull manner most faleslie recite, repeate, and often reiterate the above mentioned scandalous reports, slanders, and libells...

...

## WOOLAVINGTON

1625/6

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 247

f 233 (28 February)

Woollavington

*Officium domini contra Margaretam Simons*

*Denunciatur domino Iudicanti:* That they keepe a cocke fightinge in the Church of Wollavington aforesaid vppon mondaie the twentieth of ffebruarie

7: Marcij

last draweing thither a greate a great companie of people./ Ac est fama &c  
[Brock:] Spiggott.

°Citetur in *proximum*°

Officium domini contra Richardum Waie

5

Pro eodem delicto./

°Citetur in *proximum*°

Officium domini contra (*blank*) stolle

Pro eodem delicto./

10

°Citetur in *proximum*°

Officium domini contra Thomam Tucker seniore

Pro eodem delicto./

15

°Citetur in *proximum*°

...

## WOOLVERTON

1622

20

*Will of Christopher Brice* PRO: PROB 11/140

f 195\* (7 June; proved 31 October)

...

...Imprimis I giue & bequeath vnto my cosen George Brice my two lutes, and  
a printed Citterne book of Mr Holborns workes...

25

...

## WOOTTON COURTENAY

1599

30

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 116

f 235\* (20 June)

*Proceedings of the court held in Wells Cathedral before Anthony Eglesfield, MA,  
surrogate judge, in the presence of William Leigh, notary public*

35

...

Officium domini contra Georgium Brooke

ffor grinding vppon sondaies

And for sounding a Drum on Easter munday at service tyme

1/ a greate a great: *distigraphy*

24/ Imprimis: *in italic script*

In po:

26<sup>o</sup> Iunij

*Citatus fuit Erga hunc diem. Quo die facta preconizazione pro dicto Brooke et non comparente dominus pronuntiauit eum contumacem illius pena reservata in proximum*

...

## WORLE

1585

*Bishop's Court Deposition Book* SRO: D/D/Cd 20

f 57 (*Deposition of Anthony Selwood, gentleman, aged 50, on articles charged against John Printer, vicar*) 10

Ad tercium articulum dicit et deponit. That he this deponent of his certen knowledge hath knowen the articulat Iohn Prynter a common player at Bowles in the church yard of worle [he saying that the churchyard] and a common haunter of Tavernes alehowses Bear beatinge and Bulbeatinge yea[.] vpon the Sabbaoth daies, and an vsuall plaier at [Taverne] Tables & Cardes in the ale howses & tavernes [et aliter nescit deponere] °reddens causam sciencie sue dicit that he is a parishioner of worle & hath sene the said Printer Play as aforesaid Et aliter nescit deponere° 15

...

1639

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 330

f 54v\* (9 July) 25

*Officium domini* [d] *contra Thomam Cooke*

*Denunciatur domino Episcopo* That yis somer at his sheepe sheeringe to make his companie merrie hee caused a traveling boie commeinge a begginge to preach vnto the said companie before hee would give him anie Almes, And after the boy had ended his speech the said Cooke, or some other of his Companie sayed I potest hee hath done as well as eyther mr Snigge or mr Methwyn could doe meaninge theire owne vicar or Mr Methwyn vicar of Kewstoke Consule dominum Episcopum./.

*Citetur ad comparendum in proximo.* 30

...

16 Iulij./



## WRAXALL

1560

**Quarter Sessions Order Book** SRO: Q/SO 1(1)

p 8\*

5

*Sessions of the peace at Bridgwater*

...

rxx s.  
ndos in

De fine Willelmi Griffeth de Wraxall pro diuersis transgressionibus videlicet  
quod ipse absque aliqua Licentia de Iusticiarijs prius obtenta tavernam erexit  
& ludos illicitos quam plures proclamari fecit [alg] anglice vocatos a watche  
contra formam statuti vnde per cognicionem suam propriam convictus est &  
ponens se in gracia Curie adiudicatus est soluere xx s.

10

...

15

1611

**Consistory Court Book** SRO: D/D/Ca 170

ff 9–9v\* (16 July)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before*  
*Francis James, LL.D, vicar general, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*  
*and registrar*

20

...

*contra Lodovicum Whiting et Iohn*

Quo die comparuit Robertus Wilmott <sup>Λ</sup> de wraxall<sup>1</sup> testis &c, et est iuratus  
fassus est yat on Trinity sonday last past att night theare being a may pole  
standing in a coort of one mr Owen wales in wraxall neere to the churche yard  
wall, and the said Lewse whiting & Iohn whiting with manie others coming  
thither in the [late] night and going about to cutt downe the maypole this  
examine dwelling fast by it and heering some of the neighbors dwelling by  
cryed out this iurate arose out of his bedd, and went into the churcheyarde,  
and requested them [to] not to cutt the lugg, but to pull him vpp, but they  
continewing cutting the poale, this examine threwe a stone or twoe att him  
which did cutt him to cause l him to leaue of, the said whiting & whiting  
comming into the churcheyard of wraxall aforesaid wheare this examine  
was standing, & Lewis whiting tooke and held him about the neck, and the  
said Iohn having this deponent by the [right] <sup>Λ</sup> [left] hand, hee felte suddenlie  
a blowe vppon that hand that the bludd rann downe abundantlye, And  
thearevppon this examine cryed out and sayd You [villas] villans will you  
kill mee in the churcheyarde. Then his wief heering belike this hurlyburlic  
arose & came downe suddenlie vnto [th to] him, and with her brought

25

30

35

40

26/ Trinity sonday last past: 19 May

39/ will: w obscured by blotch

[Iacobb] <sup>^</sup> [Abraham] Willmott a sonne of this *examinates* came into the churchyard [vnto] vnto them. And by this tyme the somer lugg was downe, and then the said whiting and whiting gaue him over and holpe to carry away the lugg. And this [*responde*] *deponent* sayth that hee verilie beleueth it was the said Iohn whiting *which* gaue him the blowe on his hand because hee held that hand in his att the tyme of receaving the hurt. And sayth that they both of them did chide and brawle with him in the said churchyarde but this *examine* was somuche out of [pait] patience by reason of his bad vsage that he remembreth not what they said vnto him. And sayth that manie of them *which* weare att the cutting downe of ye said poale did see the doing heereof. et *dominus* vult vt citentur alij testes &c, mitte *nuncium* dicto Roberto Willmott *pro alijs testibus*

...

1615

*Bill of Complaint in Keene v. Cox et al* PRO: STAC 8/192/7 item 2  
single mb\* (19 June)

...

...the sayd Robert Coxe and the rest of the said riotters did then and there in riotous and vnlawfull manner with their bills stauies and other weapons assault beate hurte and wound the said Richarde Arthure in such violent and furious manner as that he was inforced to fly away for safegard of his life and haveing soe donn the said Robert Coxe and his said riotous Complices did with force and violence and with their said vnlawfull weapons hold and keepe the possession of the said ground And for that purpose did in the moneth of Marche aforesayd vnlawfully and riotusly build and erecte a Cabben or Cottage in the same ground and did Cause Certaine barrells of Ale to be there placed And did vnlawfully procure thither Certaine loose vagrant and disordered minstrelles And there in most riotous and deboshed manner in drinkeing daunceing and swaggering did most lewdly behaue themselues Contrary to your *Maiesties* lawes and statutes on that behalf and to the evill example of others...

...

## WRINGTON

1604/5

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 141  
f 30\* (26 February-12 March)

*Officium domini contra* (...) [Goffry] <sup>^</sup> [Pippetr] *famulum Iohannis Hort de Aishe parochie predicte.*

On the xth day of ffebruary last past betweene ix & xj of ye clock at night came to the howse of william Androes de eadem accompanied with Iohn Hort the younger of dayes *parochie* de wrington *predicte*, Edmund Hort of Broadewayes downe, william Bushe de eadem, with diuers others and presentlie after they had supped, the said Ieffry made a place like vnto a pulpitt, & spread a salf gard theareon, with a cushin vnder his knees to kneele vppon, and they began a psalm, beginning the spiritt of grace etc, & song it to the end. Then the said Ieffry went vpp into the said place with a booke in his hand, and said harken I beseeche You with reuerence vnto the word of god, and then read a text & said it was written in the second chapter of the Thessalonians, the contentes etc, and then opened his book and read a verse in the [s] psalmes, and said vnto them theare *present*, You are a stiffe necked generacion much like vnto the Iewes whiche beetrayed christe when they went into the Pharaseys howse, and so doe you to entangle mee with diuers other thinges partly out of the psalmes of david mingled with muche ribaldrye & knauerye. And after the singing of the psalme hee repeated this versicle. O lord open thow my lipps, & my mowth shall shewee forth thy praise.

(...) &c per Lawrenceium Hill &c Quo die dominus continuauit certificarium  
&c et negocium huiusmodi in statu quo nunc est vsque in proximum, ex eo  
quod constat domino Iudicanti eundem esse incarceratum./

...  
Officium domini contra Willimum Androwes  
Consule deteccionem proximam suprascriptam  
[Cit] Stet ex mandato Iudicis./ quia non inuenitur culpabilis/  
...

## WRITHLINGTON

1619

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 209

f 201v (8 June)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the episcopal consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Methuyn, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

...  
*contra* Iohannem Shorte  
Iuratus respondet et allegat yat hee was att church on the said sonday, on which sonday theare was a bulbayting att Wridlington, et aliter negauit

18f (...): 14 mm missing

37m/ ffoxcolt: Foxcote, 1 mile east of Writhlington

dimissus grati

deteccionem &c saving yat hee was att a litle sporte of a bull with dogges in the evening after evening prayer./

23

contra Iohannem Oacklie

dimissus grati

Iuratus similiter respondet, et similiter actum fuit etc./

23

contra Petrum Gardner

dimissus grati

Iuratus similiter respondet etc/ et similiter actum fuit

...

## YARLINGTON

1634

*Archbishop's Visitation Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 297

f [108]\* (c September)

Northcadburie

...

Officium domini contra Iohannem Sims alias Robbens

c: 13:

Presentatur per magistrum [Oliverum] Willelmum Clifford clericum rectorem

de yarlington that there is a common fame that on Midsomer day last in time

of Morninge prayer and sermon a company from Gallington in the parishe

of North Cadbury, and other places with a Morrice daunce, and with ffidlers,

[excommunicatio]

and with a drume, and held on theire sportes soe neere vnto the Church, and

Churchyard of yarlington that the minister was disturbed in discharge of

his funcion, and was faine to send out the Churchewarden Richard Slade, and

others to require them to [make] leafe makeinge such a noyse at least twice

within the said time of Morninge prayer, ^[& sermon], but they would not

give over makeinge the said noyse, And it is commonly reported that Iohn Sims,

Nicholas Biggen, Robert Pearce & Stephan Baker of Gallington aforesaid

weare some of the said Morrice Dauncers but who the fiddles weare, and drummer

I cannott yet learne but some saye that one Edward Bull dwellinge in the said

Richard Slades howse of yarlington aforesaid did beate the said drumme./

Citatus fuit per Edwardum Greene mandatarium 13: Septembris Instantis

ibidem super quo fidem fecit &c Quo die facta preconizazione &c & non

(blank)

Consule

librum: 1:

folio: 119:

## YATTON

1521-2

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/1

p 378\* (February/March - February/March)

...

Item paid to a mynnystrelle

xij d. 40

...

## 1528–9

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2

p 62\* (February/March–February/March) (Payments)

...

Item paid for rent to the church howse iiij d. 5Item paid to a mynstrelle for pleyng at (*blank*) xij d.

...

## 1530–1

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2

p 79 (February/March–February/March)

10

...

Item payd to a mynstrell at wytsonday ij s. viij d.

## 1531–2

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2

p 92\* (February/March–February/March)

15

...

Item payd to a mynstrell xiiij s. iiij d.

20

## 1532–3

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2

p 99 (February/March–February/March)

...

Item payd to a mynstrele at wytsondyde vj s. 25

...

## 1533–4

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2

p 114\* (February/March–February/March)

30

...

Item payd to a mynstrell viiij s. iiij d.

...

## 1534–5

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2

p 124\* (February/March–February/March)

35

...

Item payd to a mynstrell ix s.

...

40

## 1535-6

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2  
p 132\* (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to a mynstrel

x s. 5

...

## 1536-7

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2  
p 145\* (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to ij mynstrelles

vj s. viij d.

Item paid In expens

xij d.

...

10

15

## 1537-8

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2  
p 150 (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to the mynstrellys

x s. j d. 20

...

## 1538-9

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/2  
p 162 (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to þe mynstrellys

x s.

...

25

## 1540-1

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3  
p 3\* (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to ij mynnystrellys

vj s. ix d.

...

35

## 1541-2

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3

p 8\* (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to the mynstrellys at Wytsonday

vj s. viij d. 5

...

## 1542-3

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3

p 12\* (February/March-February/March)

10

...

Item paid to Iohn lynch mynstrell

v s.

...

## 1543-4

15

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3

p 17 (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to the mynstrellys

x s.

...

20

## 1544-5

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3

p 23 (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to iij mynstrellys

xiiij s. viij d.

...

25

## 1545-6

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3

p 27 (February/March-February/March)

30

...

Item paid to the mynstrelles

x s.

...

35

## 1546-7

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3

p 36\* (February/March-February/March)

...

Item paid to Robert Wylmett mystrell at Wyttsontyd

vj s. viij d. 40

...

## 1547-8

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3  
p 41 (*February/March - February/March*)

...

Item paid to a mynstrell

vj s. viij d. 5

...

## 1555-6

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3  
p 84 (*February/March - February/March*)

...

Item paid vnto the mēst[(.)]rerell at [wyss] wyttsundaye Summa [C] v s.

...

## 1557-8

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3  
p 93 (*18 February 1557-25 February 1558*)

...

Item paid to the mynstrell

vj s. viij d.

...

## 1558-9

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3  
p 98\* (*26 February-22 February*)

...

Item payde to the mynstrelles

xx s.

## 1559-60

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/3  
p 100\* (*23 February 1559-February/March 1560*)

...

Item paid to ye mynstrell

x s.

...

## 1592-3

*St Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yat 4/1/4  
p 61\* (*February/March - February/March*)

...

Item payde to Iohn Walle for drawinge of the may poole to  
the sawe 'pitt'

viiij d. 40

...



Item laide out to Thomas Wornell senior for the maye poll      iiij s.

...

## YEOVIL

5

1457-8

AC *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* Nichols: *Collectanea*  
p 139\* (17 April-2 April) (Gifts)

...Et de xvijij d. *receptis pro pannis jocalibus ecclesie locatis* ad Sturmyster 10  
Nywton Castell anno xxxv<sup>o</sup> in festo *Sancti laurencij* .... Et de viij d. *receptis*  
*pro pannis jocalibus ecclesie sic locatis* ad Bradeford anno supradicto tempore  
estivo.... Et de viij d. *receptis pro pannis jocalibus alia vice locatis in parochia*...

...

15

1516-17

A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 5\* (February-February) (Receipts)

...

Resayvy'd of a parsell of syche money as was presented by 20  
Robarte Hood and by the devotion of the pepylle 20 s.

...

1519-20

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* BL: Add. MS 40,729A 25  
mb 1 col a (February 1518/19-5 February 1519/20) (Receipts)

...

Receuyd of Richard Hacker þat yere beyng Robyn Hood that be hys  
gud prouysyon & dylygent labors and by the gud deuocion of the  
towne & the contrey he presentyd to god & holy church vj li. viij d. ob. 30

...

mb 1 col b

...

Receuid of Ione Whythers a gyrdyll the bockyll & pendent Syluer & gylt ffor 35  
belles Ornamentes and to be Sett in the Commen mend and to the intent the  
Sayd gyrdyll shuld doo honour to god and worshyp to the <sup>sayd</sup> church and  
parysh when Robyn <sup>hood</sup> makyth hys besyness Or such other lyke. cuius  
*anime propicietur deus*

...

40

10/ Sturmyster: *Sturminster Newton, Dorset*

11/ Nywton Castell: *Newton, Dorset*

12/ Bradeford: *Bradford Abbas, Dorset*

## 1539-40

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 9\* (February 1538/9-February 1539/40) (Receipts)

...					
Item of John Phelyps being Robin Hood	12	14	1	5	
Item of the Corpus Christi playe	0	5	11		
...					
Item of Sparow the Mynstrell	0	0	9		
...					

## 1540-1

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 13\* (February 1539/40-13 February 1540/1) (Receipts)

...					
Of Iohn Dore being Rob Hoode	8	12	2 1/2	15	

## 1541-2

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 17\* (February 1540/1-26 February 1541/2) (Receipts)

...					
of William Short beyng Robert Hood	8	7	5		
...					

## 1544-5

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 20\* (February 1543/4-8 February 1544/5) (Receipts)

...					
of Iohn Delagryse being R Hood this yere	5	8	9 1/2		
...					

## 1545-6

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 23\* (February 1544/5-6 March 1545/6) (Receipts)

...					
of Iohn Hacker the Elder being Rob Hood thys yere	9	0	10	35	
...					

## 1551-2

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 34\* (c February 1550/1-9 March 1551/2)

...					
of Tristram Brook being Robard Hood	8	11	4		

of Iohn Marchant being Robard Hoode

11 12 5

...

#### 1553-4

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6 5  
p 39\* (February 1552/3-4 February 1553/4)

...

for lone of garments to Men of East Coker

0 6 0

...

10

#### 1557-8

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 45\* (c February 1556/7-27 February 1557/8)

...

of Iohn Hacker being Rob' Hood this yere

13 0 5 15

...

#### 1558-9

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 49\* (27 February-12 February) (Receipts) 20

...

of Lyonel Harrison being Robart Hood this yere

11 10 5 1/2

...

#### 1561-2

- St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/1  
item 1 col a\* (c February 1560/1-15 February 1561/2) (Receipts) 25

...

Item Receiued of Raynode Hardinge beinge Robarte  
Hoode

x li. xiiij s. (. ) d. ob. 30

...

#### 1562-3

- A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6  
p 54\* (15 February-14 February) 35

...

of William Longye being Rob Hoode in this yere

9 18 0

...

of William strood for the Players Garments

0 2 0

...

40

## 1563-4

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* BL: Add. MS 40,729B  
single mb col a\* (15 February 1562/3-20 February 1563/4)

...

Item *Receiued* of Iohn gaylarde beinge Robarte Hooode  
this yere

ix li. xv s. iij d. ob.

...

## 1564-5

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/1  
item 2 col a\* (20 February 1563/4-11 March 1564/5) (*Receipts*)

...

Item *Receiued* of Iohn dennys beinge Robarte Hooode  
this yere

x li. v s. viij d. qa

...

Item *Receiued* for the players garments

iij s. iij d.

...

## 1566-7

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/1-2  
item [1] col a\* (c February 1565/6-16 February 1566/7) (*Receipts*)

...

(.....)aske beinge Roberte Hode this yere

iiij li. viij d.

...

Item *Received* of (....) Dyer of Shirborne this yere for the  
lone of ye plaiers garments

vij s.

...

Item *Received* of Edmond Shepard for the hyer of the plaiers  
garments which sholde have ben levied when he was Warden

iiij s.

(*Payments*)

...

Item *paid* to Iohn Troblefilde for makinge of ij gownes and  
iij Ierkens for pleers

iij s. iij d.

...

23/ (.....)aske: *Everton reads* John Trask

25/ (....) Dyer: *Goodchild reads* Robert Dyer

## 1568–9

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/1  
item 3 col a\* (c February 1567/8–20 February 1568/9) (Receipts)

...

Item whereas there was brought in by gyles hayne which 5  
kepte The parish ale this yere the Som of xix li. v s. vj d.  
of the same I have Received at too sundrye tymes viij li.

...

col b (Payments) 10

...

Item paid for [a] Reband lace for lytell Iohns horne ij d.

...

## 1569–70

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/1  
item 4 col a\* (20 February–19 February) (Receipts)

...

Item receaved of Iohn Tucker beinge Robyn Hooode this  
yere x li. xxj d. ob. 20

...

Item receaved of Roberte Dounton of lye for lone of the  
players garmentes ij s. iiij d.

Item receaved more of Iohn wolfe for the lone of them xx d.

...

25

## 1572–3

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/1  
item 5 col a\* (c February 1571/2–22 February 1572/3) (Receipts)

...

Item Receaved of William Becke Robyn Hooode this  
yere xiiij li. viij s. ij d. ob. 30

...

<...> Receaved of I<...> willi<...> of <....> for the lone  
of the plaiars garmentes iiij s. 35

...

col b (*Payments*)

...

Item paid for xij yerdes and di of normandy Canvas elbrode  
delyuerd to Robyn Hooode to make two bo[r]d clothes x s. v d.

...

Item paid for a grene silke Rebyn for the Sheriffe iiij d. 5

...

Item paide to Robarte Hooode for drynke for the Ryngers  
assension daye viij d.

Item paid to Iohn fflacher for fetherynge of Robart Hoodes arrowes iiij d. 10

...

## 1573-4

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/1

item 6 col a\* (*February 1572/3-7 March 1573/4*) (*Receipts*) 15

...

Item Received of Iames Everdon iiij li.

Item Received of the same Iames Everdon beinge

Robyn Hooode this yere xvj li. ij s. v d. ob.

...

col b (*Other payments*)

...

Item paid for mendinge of the Dromme at the parishe Ale ij s. viij d.

...

## 1575-6

A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6

p 78\* (*c March 1574/5-18 March 1575/6*)

...

of william Forde being Rob' Hood this year 17 2 0 30

...

## 1577-8

*St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/1-2 35

item [2] col a\* (*c March 1576/7-2 March 1577/8*) (*Receipts*)

...

Item the saide Iohn Dyer beinge Robyn Hooode this yere  
doth yelde upp to thuse of the parishe made by kepinge  
the Churche ale the somme of xvij li. iiij s. x d. 40

...

col b (*Payments*)

...

Item paid for the new fetheringe of Robyn Hoodes arrowes vj d.

...

5

1578-9

A *St John the Baptist's Churchwardens' Accounts* SRO: D/P/yeo.j. 4/1/6

p 85\* (c March 1577/8-8 March 1578/9)

...

of Richard Lucock who kept the Parishe ale 12 10 1 10

...

p 87\* (*Payments*)

...

for mending Rob' Hoods bar and a new key 0 0 4 15

1606

*Thomas Coryate, Coryats Crambe* STC: 5807

See Odcombe 1606

20

1607

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 2

f 96\*

25

*Articles preferred against Thomas Marshe and Roger Traske, churchwardens at Yeovil*

...

Some of the disorders at our Churche ale at yeavell this year 1607

°Iohannes Traske monitur° °B 5° °Roger Traske comittitur quia tipulauit sine licencia° 30

It was an vsuall thinge vpon the saboth daye to have minstrelsie and dauncinge & carrynge men vpon a covell stafe, the wardinges them selves Thomas Marshe & Roger Traske wear willingly so caried to the church house. Witnese Thomas Braine Thomas Iarves

35

As the above named wardens with other paryshioners went to gather the liberality of the Inhabitantes, ther came a traveller ridinge in the street. Roger Traske on of the wardinges with twoo other met him and stayed his horse & told him that they must havemony of him befor he passed Witnesse Iohn Crocker

40

Diuers times the wardens kept open the Church house dores vntill after midnight & suffered youth to be ther dauncinge and drinking Witness Iohn Crocker Thomas Braine

One Thomas Iarvis being in the street vpon occasion & seing the company cominge toward him with the drom and covell staf he went into a hous thinkinge to escape them but on Iohn Traske & Iohn Peek went in after him, & asked the houskeeper what Guestes he had who gave them a short awnswer to put them back, yet the said Trask & peek <sup>^</sup>wente<sup>1</sup> on farder vntill they found him, & brought him forth to the company whear on Thomas ffantstone, which they called the shrive amonges them, commanded som to bear him away, the said Thomas Iarvis offendinge the said shrive he begane to drawe his sword, & not withstandinge they very much molested the said Thomas Iarvis of his peace yet he speckinge words in his fury they caved him to be cited & so would have him to be punyshed yf they could witness Thomas Braine/ Thomas Bozie

At an other time the aforesaid Thomas Ia<sup>^</sup>r<sup>1</sup>vis was in the street going wher as he vssed to worke he met the company as aforesaid, the fornamed shrive staid him & called for the covell stafe, the said Thomas Iarvis thrusting him of went on his way the said shrive came after him & gave him a blowe Thomas Iarvis thrust him away againe the said shrive begane to drawe his sworde then on Iohn Hacker Iunier who was the shrive his asociat asked the said Iarvis whearfore he would not keepe them company, affirming that such as would not wear puritans witness G<sup>^</sup>e<sup>1</sup>orge garrat

These thinges beinge suffered it is very licky to exceed [the next] hearaft<sup>r</sup> for Iohn Phelpes on of the Masters of the Towne hearing on to blame the disorders which they vsed told him that the next year they would have a prise maide & a maide marion & that it should far exceed this and the Wardings mother hath said that whearas heartofore they have had but tenn hogg<sup>^</sup>s<sup>1</sup> heads of march beere the next year they would have twenty & the warding hath said that it is good & godly.

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 155  
ff 40v-1\* (19 May)

*Proceedings of the morning session held in the consistory of Wells Cathedral before Anthony Methwyn, MA, cleric, surrogate judge, in the presence of Edward Huishe, notary public*

*Officium domini contra Thomam Iervyes*

Hee saith that Yeevill church<sup>e</sup> ys maintayned by roagues.

Citatus fuit 15. instantis Maij per Thomam Seevyer mandatarium &c./ Quo die comparuit personaliter dictus Iervies/ quem dominus iuramento oneravit



&c de fideliter respondendo &c ac monuit &c./ qui in vim iuramenti sui  
 examinatus respondet et fassus est that on May day now last past vz St Philipp  
 and Iacobbs day last as this examine was in the howse of Thomas Quarrell  
 in yeevill/ a rude companie of the same parishe came vnto him saying that  
 they weare for l the churche, they would haue had him to the churche howse, 5  
 and vsed and haled and pulled him to yat end and they seeing him most  
 vnwilling to goe with them they offered to beare him vpon a cowlstaff  
 and because hee resisted them, one Thomas ffontstone offered to drawe his  
 sword att him, and thearevpon hee demaunded them saying, what haue you  
 nothing to maintaine youre churche butt with this rogarie et aliter negauit 10  
 ...

## 1626

*Ex Officio Act Book for Archbishop's Visitation* SRO: D/D/Ca 252  
 f 154 (19 September)

15

...  
*Officium domini contra Richardum ffarnam*

Dnunciatur domino Iudicanti that he keepe drincking & [f] musick in his  
 howse all tyme of diuine prayer vpon the last fast wednesdaye Ac desuper  
 laborat publica vox et fama. °Citatus fuit per eundem primo die mensis 20  
 Septembris ibidem, &c super quo fidem fecit &c Quo die facta preconizacione  
 &c et non (blank)°  
 ...

18/ Dnunciatur: for Denunciatur

19/ fast wednesdaye: ie, Ash Wednesday, 22 February 1625/6

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# Households

## CLARKE OF BRADFORD ON TONE

1601

*Edward Clarke's Memorandum Book* SRO: DD/SF 4221

f [5v] (10 June)

...

To the wrastlers

12 d.

...

f [7v] (29 September)

...

To George Walronde and giuen musicke

6 s. 8 d.

1619-20

*Edward Clarke's Account Book* SRO: DD/SF 4035

f [12v]\* (1 November-31 October)

Item paid for horsemeat att welles then

x s. vj d.

...

Item paid the next supper there for your diett

xij s. vj d.

Item given the chamberlenes

j s. vj d.

Item given the musick there

ij s.

...

## HIPPISLEY OF STON EASTON

1611

*Ferdinand Hippisley's Account* SRO: DD/HI 301

single sheet\* (8 October)

...

Alsoe paid to Piter Wellez for musicke

20 s.

...

1640/1

*Thomas Hippisley's Account* SRO: DD/HI 216

f [1v]\*

	li.	s.	d.	
...				5
Deliverd to Musitians at Mr Hamans Instance				
<sup>A</sup> at Chard sizes <sup>o</sup> ye same assizes	01	15	00	
Delivered to Maurice Haman by Ned Browne for my brother Iohn Hippisley	01	00	00	
...				10

## LUTTRELL OF DUNSTER CASTLE

1405-6

*Luttrell Household Account Roll* SRO: DD/L P/37/7mb 10\* (27 June-27 June) (*External expenses and gifts of the lord*)

...				15
Item xxvj <sup>to</sup> die decembris In dono domini tribus tenentibus Iohannis Cobleston ludentibus coram eo .iiij. s. iiij d. In dono eiusdem .vj. tenentibus de Dunsterre ludentibus coram eo iiij s. iiij d. In dono eiusdem pluribus paruulis de Minhede coram eo tripidiantibus xxi d.				20
	viiij.	s.	iiij d.	
...				
Item In dono domini Clericis sancti Nicholai xij.d....				25
...				

## MAY OF CHARTERHOUSE ON MENDIP

1606/7

*Edward Huishe's Account Book* SRO: DD/GB 145f 10\* (24 January) (*Allowances*)

...				30
To mr Evans for a quarters schooling		x s.		
To master Roger Aileworth to buy him a fighting cock		ij s.		
...				35

## PHELIPS OF MONTACUTE

1634

*Letter of Nathaniel Tomkyns to Sir Robert Phelips* SRO: DD/PH 212  
ff [2-2v]\* (16 August)

...  
Here hath bin lately a newe comedie at the globe called The Witches of  
Lancasheer, acted by reason of ye great concourse of people 3 dayes together:  
the 3<sup>d</sup> day I went with a friend to see it, and found a greater apparance of  
fine folke gentlemen and gentlewomen then j thought had bin in town in  
the vacation: The subiect was of the slights and passages done or supposed  
to be done by the[se] witches sent from thence hither and other witches and  
their familiars; Of ther nightly meetings in severall l places: their banqueting  
with all sorts of meat and drinke conveyed vnto them by their familiars vpon  
the pulling of a cord: the walking of pailles of milke by themselues and (as they  
say of children) a highlone: the transforming of men and weomen into the  
shapes of seuerall creatures and especially of horses by putting an inchaunted  
bridle into ther mouths: their posting to and from places farre distant in an  
incredible short time: the cutting off a witch-gentlewoman's hand in the forme  
of a catt, by a soldier turned miller, known to her husband by a ring thereon,  
(the onely tragicall part of the storie:) the representing of wrong and putatiue  
fathers in the shape of meane persons to gentlemen by way of derision: the tying  
of a knott at a mariage (after the French manner) to cassate masculine abilitie,  
and ye conveying away of ye good cheere and bringing in a mock feast of  
bones and stones in steed thereof and ye filling of pies with liuing birds and  
yong cats &c: And though there be not in it (to my vnderstanding) any  
poeticall Genius, or art, or language, or iudgement to state our tenet of witches  
(which I expected,) <sup>^</sup>or application to vertue<sup>^</sup> but full of ribaldrie and of things  
improbable and impossible; yet in respect of the newnesse of ye subiect (the  
witches being still visible and in prison here) and in regard it consisteth from  
the beginning to the ende of odd passages and fopperies to provoke laughter,  
and is mixed with diuers songs and dances, it passeth for a merrie and  
ex<sup>c</sup>ellent new play. peracta est fabula. Vale.

Yours most devoted  
to loue honor and serue yow

16 August. 1634

My humble service to my  
most noble ladie & neuer  
to be forgotten.

(signed) Nathaniel Tomkyns

## PRESTON OF CRICKET ST THOMAS

c 1628–61

*Thomas White's Account for John Preston* SRO: DD/HI 458  
single sheet\*

...

Item paid att Basingstocke to the house & exspence att <sup>1</sup>abaite<sup>1</sup> 3(...)

...

for the musicke there 0 2(...)

## SMYTH OF ASHTON COURT

1625

*Letter of Katherine Gorges to Sir Hugh Smyth* BRRO: AC/C47/3  
f [1]\* (7 December)

Good Brother

I was not a litle glad to see Mr Chamberlaine, beeing he brought the happy  
 newes of *your* better recouery of *your* health, the *which* both I and all myne  
 will not cease dayly to pray for the encrease of, wishing our abode was  
 something neerer, that we might oftner enjoy the good companie of *your* self  
 and my sister; beeing the greatest comfort trew frends can haue, to enjoy on  
 anothers companie I can not but let you know what a great Courtiar I was  
 like to haue bin, and had bargained with my husband that he should keep  
 home, and I to ride abroad; and my Lady Denbeigh my old acquaintance  
 and kinswman lyuinge at Langford, would needs haue me promise hir that I  
 would goe to see the Queen and the Masque, on sunday night was fortnight,  
 where I saw the Masque acted by the Queens seruants all french, but it was  
 disliked of all the English for it was neither masque nor play, but a french  
 antique; and for the french ladies the elder sorte that are neerest hir *Majestie*  
 are something like to Nurce Ball only Nurce is a litle hansomer, but whether  
 it was the sight of the Masque, or the old french Ladies I know not, but I cam  
 home the next day soe sicke that I kept my Chamber 3: or 4: dayes after,  
 and soe weared with the Court, that for ought I know Ile' neuer desire to be  
 Courtiar more; yet I receaued a great grace from the Queen, for shee kissed  
 me, and that she doeth not useuallly doe to any, nor scarce speake to any Lady  
 that speakes french to hir unless they be Papists. the Lady Denbeigh and the  
 Lady Carlile was commanded by the King to waighte on the Queen; but she  
 will by noe meanes as yet admitt any Protastints to any place about hir. soe

7/ Basingstocke: *Basingstoke, Hampshire*7/ 3(...): *ie, £3; edge of page, with shillings/pence, missing*9/ 0 2(...): *ie, 2s; edge of page, with pence, missing*26/ kinswman: *for kinswoman*26/ Langford: *Longford Castle, Wiltshire*

all the English ladies are gon from hir Court, except the Cowntes of Arrundell who is the greatest with the Queen of all english Ladies. Brother I desire the relation of this my courtiarshipp may make you smile. I haue receaued *your* noble token which are such dainties here, that the King and Queen had not the like all the the tyme they was here, I am very sorie I haue nothing at this tyme worth the presenting soe louing a brother as *your* selfe, desiring you wilbe pleased to accept of my thankfullness instead of a better token, thus with the remembranc of my best love to *your* selfe and my sister, with my best wishes to my Cousin Rogers, and my Cousin Thomas I rest

*your* sister in all trew affection 10

Langford the 7<sup>th</sup>  
of December 1625

(signed) Katherine Gorges

1641

*Letter of Hugh Popham to Thomas Smyth* BRRO: 36074(134)  
single sheet (30 May) 15

Noble Sir

I am very sorry I was soe vnfortunate as not to be at [Lond] home to receiue 20  
*your* commands. I was [att] the last weeke passing som sportfull howres in musicke, & dancing, & if you had bene there, ye Damas would danc't more lively; but noe more of that./.

I wish you a ffortunate iourney to London, & if it be possible I will steale 25  
to London on purpose to wayte on you at a supper *yat* *your* tedious busenes wee may chirpe 2 or 3 hours, where I may tell you there is none more roally honors you then

Your truly ffaythfull  
seruant.

Hounsterete 30<sup>th</sup>

May: 1641

Hugh Popham. 30

the Ladyes haue newly sent their letters to London, for *yat* at this time they could not trouble you.

4/ token: *for* tokens, inserted in left margin

5/ the the: *ditography*

22/ would: *for* would haue

26/ roally: *for* royally

30/ Hounsterete: *Houndstreet*, 8 miles southeast of Ashton Court

31/ May: *written over another word*

## TREVELYAN OF NETTLECOMBE COURT

1607/8

*Letter of Elkanah Trevelyan to his Father* SRO: DD/WO 55/3  
single sheet\* (1 March)

5

Emanuel

The manifolde and sundry blessings receaued, (deare and louing father) doth not a little imbold me, of my duty towards you; nether can I sufficiently render obediens vnto you for them, but alwaies besiching you to receau this 10 my duty shewed towards you, and although I doe not gratyfie you with oughen letters, by *which* you may not be meanly comforted, and as the parte, a'n'd duety of a childe is to doe, yet notwithstanding that you would receau them ioyfully and as it becommeth a father, and vnles I should shewe some token of my duety vnto you, sometimes by writing, you might rightly thinke 15 me vngratfull, for the benifit(.) receaued from you, but it d(. )th(. )s it were prike me onward that I cannot chuse, but expresse my duety towards you, (Deare father) I did thinke moast fitly to sertyfie you, that I had at our cokfighting, a coke, which made me victor, wherefore I woude beseeche you, that you woude prouide such things as would be most fitte and conuenient, 20 to be had, wherefore I haue sent you a note, espetialy to sertyfie you what they are, beseeching you that you would sende them as soone as you could conueniently, if before the next sunday, this with my humble duety vnto your selfe, and my most carfull mother, hoping the want of nothing before Easter. Ruington this present being the 1 of March, 1607. 25

Your most obedient sonne,  
Elcanah Treuelian

## WARRE OF CHIPLEY PARK

30

1621/2

*Letter of John Warre to his Father* SRO: DD/SF 135  
single sheet\* (week of 17 March)

Dear father.

35

I persuaue my self you haue receaued my letters as I yours and that you expect som[thing] <sup>1</sup>Nwes as I then promised. *which* ar partly gratitorie, as for things sent *which* was desired. partly petitorie, as for things *which* I desire to be sent. I meane my quarterleigh the necessitie of which you my wel coniecture by

16/ benifit(.): end of word lost at right margin

25/ Ruington: for Ruwington; abbreviation mark missing

39/ my: for may

reason of precedent occasions, for besides [my] <sup>1</sup>the<sup>1</sup> last quarter[leigh] <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup>  
 the many circumstances *which* accompany them in generall. egge Saturday  
 ashwednesday breakfast for all the batchelers and that nights supper besides  
 the fees of the beedle proctors charge for hood lambscine capp a payre of  
 gloues for one of the senior batchelers at 5 s. *which* answered for <sup>1</sup>mee<sup>1</sup> [the  
 determ] as one ashwednesday euery iunior hath one the deane opposeing him  
 also the deanes fees for representing with many triuiall matters together with  
 certaine expences in time of Lent with other iunior batchelors I am also entred  
 to the dancing schoole *which* together with cost for pumpes ribboan and a  
 small fee to his man amount to 20 s. I haue bought a new goane soe these  
 things being considered som smal things remain a 20 s. or there abouts not  
 able [to] by a smal part to countervaille the expences of this quarter *which* will  
 not be much. pray therefore send it, spareing to send for mee as not desiring  
 it. I shall endeauour to deserue it. I pray you also to send vpp goodwins  
 antiquities Lypsius de romanis magistratibus greeke psalmes. not forgetting  
 my sutte if it returne vnto your hands before the returne of ye carrier [this]  
 thus desiring your prayers together with my dear mothers I rest in prayers  
 for you both

this is the tenth week of ye  
 quarter

your obedient sonn  
 Iohn Warre. 20

pray remember my loue to Mr Periam to my brothers and sisters to my brother  
 Henry Cosin makins.

## WEEKES OF EAST NYNEHEAD

c 1613

*Letter of William Carswell to Richard Weekes* SRO: DD/SF 3883  
 single sheet\* (*Winter*)

Syr by expresse commaundment from my master I made dilligent inquiry for  
 you yesterday at Tanton and now I am farther enioynd to write vnto you. he  
 is very desyrous your self and mistris Weekes would spend the tyme with him  
 this Christmas at lideard; and hopes that you ar not otherwise ingaged but  
 you may dispose of yourself to satisfy his request heerin. where I will assure  
 you you shalbe very wellcomm Thus praying your answeare and hoping to  
 see you heer shortly I leave you for this tyme to the mercy of the allmighty

Yours assuredly  
 William Carswell

5/ answered: s written over h  
 11/ considered: s written over c  
 15/ Lypsius: otiose curl over p

22-3/ pray ... makins: written crosswise to main text in left margin  
 36/ wellcomm: edge of leaf worn away  
 39/ William Carswell: in italic display script



Post: my *master* would farther pray you according to your promise to lay your  
 autoryty vppon tom taberer and bring him with you to drive of Melancholly

1613

*Letter of Henry Bluett to Richard Weekes* SRO: DD/SF 3066  
 single sheet (4 July)

5

Good Vnckle Weekes you shall receaue by this Carrier a boxe from mr Astlyn  
 in *which* are two beauer *hattes*, with two bandes he hath also sent you a *lettre*  
 wherein he hath written the prizes of them of *which* I could no(. ) get him 10  
 to abate anie thinge and for the Beauer skinnnes he hath not yet sold them  
 neither will he vntill such time as he heares from you againe you shall also  
 receaue from mr Lownes the two bybles and the other bookes *which* you  
 wrote to him for they are packt vp in the Cloth *which* you sent vpp with the  
 beauer skinnnes I spake yesterday with ffraunc<sup>e</sup>s<sup>1</sup> Newton who would willingly 15  
 heare from you about thinges *which* he sent you before [g] he goe into the  
 Countrye *which* as he told me he thought would bee aboute ten dayes hence  
 Iohn Withy for his drunkennes and ill carriage is newly gone from my *Lady*  
 Bond and it is thought that by reason of his large expences he is much indebted  
 he is growne heare of late to be one of the beastlyest drunkeardes in the Cittie 20  
 my *Lady* hath beene sick of an ague this th<sup>r</sup> <sup>r</sup> <sup>e</sup> or fower dayes she would  
 willingly haue me to serue her againe as I doe vnderstand by her men she hath  
 euer sithince my coming from thence vsed me very kindly but esppecially  
 sithince I fell sick last she hath often times bid me to com and fetch my meate  
 and drinke at her house and on thursday she was desirous to haue me to ligh 25  
 at her howse and that was as I did imagine to thend that I should offer my  
 selfe to searue her againe On tewsday last there was acted at the Globe a new  
 play called all is triewe *which* had beene acted not passage 2 or 3 times before  
 there came many people to see it in somuch that ye howse was very full and  
 as the play was almost ended the house was fired with shooting off a Chamber 30  
*which* was stopt with towe *which* was blown vp into the thetch of the house  
 and so burnt downe to the ground but the people escaped all without hurte  
 except one man who was scalded with the fier by aduenturing in to saue a  
 Child *which* otherwise had beene burnte  
 Thus with the remembrance of my humble dutie to you and to my good 35  
 Aunte at this time I humblie take my leaue euer resting

your dutifull Nephew  
 to despose of  
 (signed) Henry Bluett

London this 4 of Iuly 1613

2/ tom taberer: *in italic script*

27/ tewsday last: 29 June

38/ 4: corrected from another figure

35-9/ Thus ... Henry Bluett: *written crosswise in left margin;*  
*signature in italic display script, probably by main hand*

## WYNDHAM OF ORCHARD WYNDHAM

1573/4

*Will of Sir John Wyndham* PRO: PROB 11/57f 133 (*codicil*) (2 March; proved 28 April 1575)

...

...Item I giue vnto Margarette ffraunces my new virginalles and the other  
virginalles to Elizabeth wood...

...

1574

*Wyndham Family Account Book* SRO: DD/WYp Box 2, No. 3f [20] (*Midsummer quarter*)

...

Item paid vnto Mr beavin for ij Cornetes

xvj s. 15

...

f [21v] (*Christmas quarter*) (*New year's gifts*)

...

Item vnto the Mynstreles

iiij s. iiij d. 20

...

# Diocese of Bath and Wells

c 1258

*Statutes for the Diocese of Bath and Wells* Vatican Library: MS ottob. lat. 742 f 110v cols 1–2\*

...

quod placita secularia non teneantur in ecclesiis uel in cimiteriis. Rubrica  
Dominus & saluator noster uendentes & ementes eiecit de templo. ne domus  
orationis fieret latronum spelunca ad quod etiam induxit testimonium scripture  
ob quod districcius inhihemus ne in ecclesiis aut in earum atriis uel in cimiteriis  
diebus dominicis uel aliis publica habeantur mercata ut placita teneantur  
secularia nec ibidem edificia construantur nisi hostilitatis tempus exposerit & si  
constructa fuerint: penitus prosternantur. et quia in cimiteriis multa sanctorum  
corpora ac saluandorum requiescunt & ob hoc est eis reuerencia exhibenda  
precipimus etiam quod sacerdotes in suis ecclesiis denuncient ne quis in cimiteriis  
luctas coreas facere uel alios inhonestos ludos presumant precipue in ecclesiarum  
festis & sanctorum uigiliis quia qui huiusmodi faciunt uel intersunt: non solum  
demoniis immolare verum & locis sanctis & temporibus sacrosanctis iniuriam  
irrogare comprobantur: rectores uero ecclesiarum vicariis siue presbiteri in quorum  
parochiis sunt huiusmodi cum eos latere non possit. nisi hoc archidiacono uel  
officiali denunciauerint tempestiue grauiter puniantur

...

20

Collation with Hereford Cathedral: MS O.VIII.5 f 144v (H) and BL: Harl. 106 ff 197v  
col 2–198 col 1 (B): 5 quod] Quia H 5 Rubrica] H omits 6 eiecit] eiesit H  
10 secularia] scolaria H 5–11] quod ... et] B omits 12 ac] & B 12 saluandorum]  
saluandorum corpora B 12 & ob hoc est] ideo est B 13 etiam] B omits 13 suis]  
B omits 13 quis] qui B 14 alios] alias B 15 uel] H omits 16 immolare] violare  
H 16 verum &] Sed B 16 sacrosanctis] sacris B 17 comprobantur] probantur B  
17 vicariis] vicarii HB 18 sunt] fuerint B 18 possit] possunt H 19 officiali]  
eius officiali B

9/ ut: for nec(?)

17/ vicariis: for vicarii

1530/1

*Ex Officio Act Book* SRO: D/D/Ca 5

p 119 (17 January)

*Proceedings of the court held before William Boureman in the presence of John Heth, notary public*

Smythe

...

officium domini promotum per Morys contra dovell

Ad probandum articulos Morys habet Quo die Iudex ad petitionem Morys oneravit dovell iuramento de fideliter respondendo articulis alias per Morys propositis. Quo iurato suum responsum prebuit eisdem sub forma sequenti viz Ad primum articulum dicit se fuisse grauiter infirmum in capite et ex consilio medici abstinebat se ab ingru ecclesie per tres ut credit septimanas seruando se domi sed saltare aut tripidare negat/ Ad secundum articulum dic(...) se fuisse infirmum a natiuitate domini vsque ad pascha (...) diebus quibus ingredieretur templum non recolit/ non interfuit conuiuijs & computacionibus nec gerebat citharem secum prout in articulo continetur ...

1605

*Archbishop Richard Bancroft's Visitation Articles* STC: 10158

sig B4v

...

51 Item, Whether haue you or your predecessors Church-wardens there suffered since the last pardon, any plaies, feasts, banquets, Church ales, drinkings, or any other prophane vsages to be kept in your church, chappell or church-yarde, or belles to be rung superstitiously vpon hollidayes or daies abrogated by Law.

...

1609

*Bishop James Montague's Visitation Articles* STC: 10137.3C

sig Bv

...

46 Item, Whether haue you or your predecessors churchwardens there suffered since the last pardon, any plaies, feasts, banquets, church-ales, drinking, or any other prophane vsages to bee kept in your Church, Chappel, or Churchyards, or bels to be rung superstitiously vpon Holidiaes, or daies abrogated by law.

...

13/ ingru: for ingressu(?)

16/ ingredieretur: for ingrederetur

23, 34/ Item,: in roman type; rest of article in black-letter

1626

*Archbishop George Abbot's Visitation Articles* STC: 10137.4

sig Ci verso\*

...

13. Whether haue you or your predecessors Church-wardens there, suffered  
any playes, feasts, banquets, church-ales, drinkings, or any other prophane  
playes, to bee kept in your Church, Chappell, or Church-yard, or bells to  
be rung superstitiously on Holy-dayes or Eues, abrogated by the Booke of  
Common prayer.

...

10

1629

*Bishop Leonard Mawe's Visitation Articles* STC: 10137.4C

sig C verso

...

13 Whether haue you or your Predecessors Churchwardens there, suffered  
any Playes, Feasts, Banquets, Church-Ales, Drinkings, or any other prophane  
Playes, to bee kept in your Church, Chappell, or Churchyard, or Bels to  
bee rung superstitiously on Holidayes or Eues, abrogated by the Booke of  
Common Prayer.

15

...

20

1630

*Bishop Walter Curle's Visitation Articles* STC: 10137.5

sig Ci verso\*

...

25

13. Whether haue you or your Predecessors Churchwardens there, suffered  
any Playes, Feasts, Banquets, Church-Ales, Drinkings, or any other prophane  
Playes to bee kept in your Church, Chappell, or Churchyard, or Bels to  
bee rung superstitiously on holidayes or Eues, abrogated by the Booke of  
Common Prayer.

30

...

1633

*Letter of Archbishop William Laud to Bishop William Piers* PRO: SP 16/247  
single sheet (4 October)

35

My very good Lord

My businesies concerninge my Translacion are now almost ouer & those  
of Tearme ready to beginne And this Interim I am Commanded by his  
Maiestie to putt you to a little paynes. There hath been of late some noyse  
in Somersett shyre about the Feasts of the Dedicat[i]ons of Churches

40

Commonly Called ye Wakes and it seemes the Iudges of Assize formerly made an order to prohibite them & caused it to be published in some or most of ye Churches there by the Ministers without my Lord the Bishoppes consent[.] or priuity The pretence for this hath been that some disorders derogatory from Gods seruice & the gouernment of the Commonwealth are Committed at those times. By which argument anything that is abused may be quite taken away. It seemes there hath some heate been stricke in the Countrey about this, by the Carriage of the Lord Cheife Iustice Richardson at the twoe last Assizes, especially the last, with which his Maiestie is not well pleased. And for the preuenting of any Outrages or disorders at those ffeasts noe man can be more Carefull then his Maiestie is, but he conceiues & that very rightlye, that all these may & ought to be preuented by the care of the Iustices of Peace, & yet leaue the ffeasts themselues to be kept, for the Neighbourly meetings & Recreacions of the people, of which he would not haue them debarred vnder any friuolous pretenses. and farther his Maiestie hath been lately enformed by men of good Place in yat Countrey, yat the Humorists increase so much in those partes and vnite themselues by banding against the Feasts, which Course as his Maiestie noe way likes, soe he hath been informed alsoe yat for this last yeare since warning was giuen, there haue not been any noted Disorders at any of those ffeasts kept in those Partes. Yet for his better satisfaction he hath Commanded me to require you (which I here doe by these Lettters) to send for some of the grauest of your Clergy, and such as stand best affected to ye Church & gouernment in the seuerall Partes of your Diocess, and by them to enforme your selfe how these Feasts haue been ordered for this last yeare, & how free they haue been from Disorders, and to send me vpp an accompt of it, such as I may shew to his Maiestie of which you must not fayle. And he doubts not but yat you will performe the same like a wise & a prudent gouernor. Thus leauing this busines, to your Care, and desiring you to make as much conuenient hast with it as you can, I commend you to Gods Grace, and rest

Lambeth

October 4.

1633.

Your Lordshippes very louing frend  
and Brother.

*Letter of Bishop William Piers to Archbishop William Laud* PRO: SP 16/250 ff [1-2v]\* (5 November)

Most Reverend Father in God and my very Honorable good Lord

My humble service presented to your Grace; I receiued vpon the 12<sup>th</sup> of

October last a letter from your Grace, dated the 4<sup>th</sup> of the same moneth, wherein your Grace hath required me by a Commaundement from his Maiestie to send for some of the Gravest of my Clergy; and such as stand best affected to the Church and Governement out of the severall partes of my Diocesse, and by them to informe my selfe how the annuall Feasts of the Dedications of their Churches haue bene kept within their severall Parishes this last yeere, and how free they haue ben from disorders. Now accordinge to His Maiesties pleasure and Commaundement herein, presently after the receipt of your Graces letter I sent forth my letters into all the severall Deanrys within my Diocesse for some of the Better sort of the Clergy out of every Division, part and corner of Sommersettshire to come vnto me; and soe they did: vpon certayne dayes appointed by me; And I find by the severall Answears of threescore and twelue Ministers, Beneficed men in whose parishes these Feasts are kept, as followeth; First, that they haue bin kept not only this last yeere, but also for many yeares bfore, as long as they haue liued in their severall Parishes without any Disorders. Secondly, that vpon the Feast dayes, (*which* are for the most part every where vpon Sundayes) the service of the Church hath bene more solemnely performed, and the Church hath bin better frequented both in ye forenoones and in ye afternoones then vpon any other Sunday in the yeere. Thirdly, that they haue not knowen, nor heard of any disorders in the Neighbouringe Townes where the like Feasts are kept. Fourthly, that the People doe very much desire the continuance of these Feasts. Lastly, that all these Ministers are of opinion, that it is fitt and convenient these Feast dayes should be continued, for a memoriall of the Dedications of their severall churches, for the civilizinge of people, for their lawfull recreations, or the composinge of differences by occasion of the meetinge of Friends, for the increase of loue and amity, as beinge Feasts of Charity, for the releife of the Poore, the richer sort keeping then in a manner open house, and for many other reasons./

This is the summe of their severall free and voluntary Answears, *which* I haue in writinge vnder their owne hands, and wilbe ready to show if they be required; *which* course I tooke because it might not be giuen out hereafter by those who condemne these Feasts, that I did mistake either their wordes or their meaninge. And I doe verely beleieve y<sup>t</sup> if I had sent for an hundred more of ye Clergy within my Diocesse, I should haue receiued the same Answear from them all; because not one of those Ministers, who appeared before mee (althoughe they are almost all of them as yet strangers vnto me, and most of them strangers one to another) varied in ye substance of his Answear from the rest; nay most of them agree in their very phrases and wordes, and yet all of them gaue their answears severally: soe that I may

liken these seventy and two Ministers in this matter vnto the Septuagint, or seventy two Interpreters who agreed soe soone in the translation of the old testament./

Now, as I haue made a true report of the Answares of these Ministers soe I desire to sett downe some observations of myne owne, *which* I haue collected 5  
out of their answares.

I find *yat* thorow out Sommersetshire there are not only Feasts of Dedication, but also in many places Church-ales, Clarkes-ales and Bid-ales. The feasts of Dedication are more generall, and generally they are called Feast-days, but 10  
in diuerse places they are called revell-dayes; they are not knowne amonghe the ignorant people by the name of Feasts of Dedication; but all Scholars acknowledge them to be in ye memory of their severall Dedications, and some Ministers of late haue taught them soe: Diuerse churches are dedicated here to ye Holy Trinity, and they are kept vpon Trinity S(.)nday; but almost all those Feasts *which* are kept in memory of the Dedication of Churches 15  
vnto Saints, are kept vpon some Sundayes, either before or after the Saintes dayes; because, (as I conceiue) on the weeke dayes the People haue not had leasure to celebrate these Feasts. And I find that almost all the Feasts of Dedications are kept in ye summer tyme, betweene Our Lady day and Michaelmas, because *yat* tyme of the yeere is most convenient for the meetinge 20  
of Friends from all places: in some places they haue solemne sermons preachd by Diuines of good note, and also Communion vpon their Feast dayes; and in one place in this county the parishe holds land by their Feast: And one Minister (who hath bene a great travayler.) hath inserted in his answere, *yat* in some Reformed churches namely in Switzerland these Feasts of Dedication 25  
are observed.

I find also that the People generally would by noe meanes haue these Feasts taken away, for when the Constables of some Parishes came from the Assises about two yeeres agoe, and told their Neighboures that the Iudges would 30  
put downe these Feasts, they answered that it was very hard, if they could not entertayne their kindred and Friends once in a yeere, to prayse God for his Blessings, and to pray for ye Kings *Maiestie* vnder whose happy Governement, they inioyed peace and quietnesse: and they sayd, they would endure the Iudges penalties rather then they would breake off their Feast dayes. It is 35  
found also true by experience that many suites in law haue bin taken up at these Feasts by mediation of Friends, *which* could not haue bene soe soone ended in Westminster Hall.

Moreouer I find that the cheifest cause of the dislike of these Feasts amonghe the preciser sort is, because they are kept vpon Sundayes, *which* they never call 40  
but Sabbath dayes, vpon *which* they would haue noe manner of recreation, nay, neither rost nor sod: And some of the Ministers, who were with me haue ingeniously confessed, that if the people should not haue their honest and lawfull recreations vpon sundayes after eveninge prayer, they would goe either



into tipling houses, and there vpon their ale-benches talk of matters of the church or state; or els into conuenticles l

Concerninge Church-ales, I find, that in some places the people haue bin perswaded to leaue them off, in other places they haue bin put downe by the Iudges and Iustices; soe that now there are very few of them left: but yet I find, *yat* by Church-ales heretofore, many poore parishes haue cast their Bells, repayed their Towers, Beautified their Churches, and raysed stockes for the poore; and not by the sinnes of the people, (as some Humourists haue sayd) but by the Benevolence of people at their honest and harmeless sports and pastimes; at *which* there hath not bene observed soe much disorder, as is commonly at fayres and marketts./

Touchinge Clarke-ales (*which* are lesser Church-ales) for the better mayntenance of parishe Clarkes; they haue bin vsed vntill of late; in diuerse places; and there was good reason for them; for in poore country parishes where ye wages of the clarke is very small, the people thinkinge it vnfitt that the clarke should duely attend at church, and loose by his office, were wont to send him in provision, and then feast with him, and giue him more liberally, then their quarterly payments would amount vnto in many yeeres. And since these haue bin put downe, some Ministers haue complayned vnto me that they are afrayd they shall haue noe parishe clarkes for want of mayntenance for them.

There is another kind of publique meetinge call'd a Bid-ale when an honest man decayed in his estate is sett up agayne by ye liberall benevolence and contribution of friends at a feast: but this is layd aside almost in every place./ But I feare I haue wearied your Grace with this impertinent discourse of Country Feasts; yet while I am in this discourse of Feasts, I may not forget one thinge, wherein I haue bene desired by a Graue and learned Diuine dwellinge neere Taunton, to moue your Grace, and that is *yat* your Grace would be a meanes, *yat* the Iudges in their Lent Circuit might not sitt and condemne people in that Great Feast day of the Annunciation./

And for hauinge carefully endeavoured to performe His *Maiesties* commaundement, I cast my selfe downe at his *Maiesties* Feete, humbly begginge His Gracious pardon, if I haue erred in any point; And I desire noe longer to liue, then I may be able to doe God, and His *Maiestie* service in ye church; *which* althoughe other Bishops can performe with greater abilities then my selfe, yet none shall performe l the same with more readinesse, diligence, and fidelity then I will doe: And soe prayinge for the continuance of your Graces health and happinesse, I leaue your Grace to Gods blessed protection and humbly rest.

your Graces ever to be  
Commaunded

Wells 50  
November 1633

Guilielmus Bath & Wellensis

c 1633

*Archbishop William Laud's Visitation Articles* STC: 10137.7  
sig B2v

...

Touching the Church-wardens and Side-men.

VVHether you and the Church-wardens, Quest-men, or Side-men from  
time to time, doe, and haue done their diligence, in not suffering any idle  
person to abide either in the Church-yard, or Church-porch, in Seruice or  
Sermon time, but causing them either to come into the Church to heare  
Diuine Seruice, or to depart, and not disturbe such as be hearers there? And  
whether they haue, and you doe diligently see the parishioners duely resort to  
the Church euery Sunday and Holiday and there to remaine during Diuine  
Seruice and Sermon? And whether you or your predecessors, Church-wardens  
there, suffer any Playes, Feasts, Drinkings, or any other profane vsages, to be  
kept in your Church, Chappell, or Church-yards...

1636

*Bishop William Piers' Visitation Articles* STC: 10137.9  
sig C

...

13 Whether haue you, or your Predecessors Churchwardens there,  
suffered any Playes, Feasts, Banquets, Church-Ales, Drinkings, or any other  
prophane Playes to be kept in your Church, Chappell, or Churchyard?

...

1641

*Articles of Impeachment against Bishop William Piers* Wing: A3832  
pp 4–5\* (December)

...

\* Impicty and prophanenesse which no age can patterne, many minister have been suspended and censured for shortning the Service, that they might preach the longer, and yet they are comanded to cortal it by this Bishop, that the people might haue more time to play in Gods own day

5. That he hath both by precept & example most prophanely opposed the due  
sanctification of the Lords day, by approving and allowing of prophane Wakes  
and Revels on that day, contrary to the Lawes and Statutes of this Realme, for  
which purpose he \* commanded afternoone service on the Lords day not to  
be long, that so the people might not bee hindred from their Recreations;  
pressed and injoynd all the Ministers in his Diocesse in their proper persons, to  
reade the booke of sports, in their severall parish Churches, in the midst  
of Divine Service at morning prayer on the Lords day, contray to the words,

6/ VVHether: large roman capital VV followed by black-letter capital H

31–2m/ minister: for ministers

37/ contray: for contrary

29–40m/ \*Impicty ... day: margiale begun in left margin and continued at foot of page

and perport of the said booke, which some Ministers (as Master Humphry Chambers, and Master Thomas refusing to doe, he therefore suspended them both from their Office and Benefice and kept them excommunicated for divers yeares, notwithstanding the said booke was by the Bishops Order published in their churches by others he convented the ministers of Beererockham before him for having two Sermons on the said parish Revell day, alleading I that it was a hinderance to the said Revell, and to the utterance of the Church-Ale, provided to be spent on that day. He convented and punished one Master Thomas Elford a Minister, for Preaching at the Parish of Mountagu, upon the Revell day, upon the Praphet Ioels exhortation, to fasting, weeping, and mourning, charging him, that not onely his Sermon, but his very Text was\* scandalous to the Revell, and gave offence to the meeting. And for the same reason, the said Bishop commanded the said Church-wardens of the Parish of Batcombe, to blot out of the Church wall, this Text of Scripture therein written, taken out of Esay 58.13.14\* If thou turne away thy foote from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord honorable, and shalt honour him, not doing the owne waies nor finding thine owne pleasure, nor speaking thine owne words, then shalt thou delight thy selfe in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth and feede thee with heritage of Jacob thy Father, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. And he likewise caused to be rased out this clause in Doctor Bisse his monument in that Church, formerly Pastor there; he was an enemy to heathenish Revell. To countenance which Revells, the said Bishop (in opposition to the orders of the Judges of Assise, and Justices of Peace of Somerset-shire, for the suppressing of Sports and Revells and their Petition to the King, to that purpose) did call before him divers ministers of his Diocesse and presented unto them a writing in approbation and commendations of the said sports and Revells, whereupon many of the said Ministers subscribed their names, by the Bishops perswasions, which writing the said Bishop sent up to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who after the receipt thereof suppressed the Justices Petition. And partly after the booke for sports and Revells on the Lords day was published.

...

1-2/ (as Master ... Thomas: closing parenthesis omitted

5/ Beererockham: for Beererockham ie, Beererockham

7m/ (...)pall: blotted

10-11/ fasting ... mourning; Joel 2:12

14/ Batcombe: village 3 miles north of Bruton

15/ Esay 58.13.14: ie, Isaiah 58:13-14

18/ thc: forthine

# County of Somerset

1594

AC *William Pryne, Canterburies Doome* Wing: P3917  
p 152 (28 September) (Bridgwater sessions)

...

It is Ordered and agreed, that no Church-Ale be admitted to be kept within  
any part of this shiere. And that by the Justices of the Peace of the Lymits,  
notice thereof bee given to the severall parishes within their Lymits, and that  
such as shall offend in keeping any such be duely punished,

John Popham, Lord Chiefe Iustice.

George Sidnam Knight, Henry Barkley Knight. 10

George Speak Henry Waldron,

Alexander Colles, Iohn Frances,

Alexander Popham Iohn Lancaster,

Edward Hext, Thomas Phillips. 15

...

1594/5

*Letter of Sir John Popham to Sir Francis Hastings* Huntington Library: HA 10347  
single sheet\* (7 January)

Sir I am sory your occasyons are such as I Cold not speke with you before your  
departer especially in respect of my *Lord* of pembrokes cause/ but I trust yt  
wyll not be long before I shall se you agayne/ for matters of the Cuntry one  
specyall thyng [that] I wold putt you in mynd of ys, that especyall regard be  
hadd vnto these alchowses both to suppress the multytude and dysorderes 25  
and to haue the dryncke Conteynent not stronge for drunckardes/ but  
moderat for sustenans especyally in this tyme of dearthe of Corne/ and so also  
to hold on the Corse for suppressyng of the Churchales agred on at [Taun]  
Brygwater sessyons last a vayne lewd and vnnecessary charg as yt ys vsed/ The

proclamacyon touchyng Gonnes and pysteles must be hadd in remembrans  
to be dealt in at thys sessyons accordyng as ys prescrybed/ The matter of  
maltyng off Barley Bought out of wyltsher wold be thought one/ that some  
Competent quantity of yt myght be sold by the huxsters in the markett for  
Brede vnmalted/ and so with my very hartly Commendasyons to your selff  
with lyke Remembrance off yt, to Sir Gorg syddenham mr Coles my sone  
henry and other our good ffrendes I end at ffreere the vijth of Ianuary 1594  
your assured ffrend to you  
Iohn popham

1596

AC William Pryne, *Canterburies Doome* Wing: P3917  
p 152\* (10 September)

...

Orders made by the Iustices Assembled at  
Bridgwater Sessions the 10th of September,  
Anno Regni Elizabethae 38. &c

That no Church Ale, Clerkes Ale, Bid Ale, or tipling be suffered, And that  
such only be suffered to tipple as be or shal be lawfully licensed according to  
the Order made in this Sessions.

SIGNED;

Iohn Popham  
Alexander Popham  
Iohn Court  
Henry Waldron  
Edward Hext.

George Sydenham,  
Thomas Horner,  
Iohn Colles,  
Iohn May,  
Iohn Rodney

...

1607/8

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 2  
f 118\* (13 January)

Iannuarij 13<sup>o</sup> 1607 apud Welles.

It was at this present Sessions ordered by the Consent of all the Iustices then  
and there present, whose names are hereunto subscribed, that all Bulbaytinges,  
Bearebaytinges, Churchales, Clerkales, Woodwardes ales, Bidales, and all kinds  
of such like ales whatsoever, be immediately from henceforth throughout  
this whole Countie of Somerset vtterly forbidden and suppressed. And that  
the order heretofore taken [(.)] concerning the said Churchales and such

7/ 1594: underlined in MS

34/ 1607: underlined in MS



1612

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 13

f 71\* (21–4 April)

Ivelchester decimo.

5

At this Sessions it is ordred that proclamacion be made that noe Church Ales  
shalbe kept [this time such as haue b(...)ed or provided any Malte that they  
sell it at the best value they may by lawe without keeping any ale] and all  
Iustices doe binde ouer all such as shall keepe any ales by meanes of the dearth  
of Corne

10

It is generally ordered that the Composicion shall holde

(signed) Iohn. Portman

Nicholas Halswell

(...) Phelyppes

Edward Hext.

Thomas Warre

Iohn Symes

Iohn ffarewell

Alexander Ewenes

15

Henry Walrond

William Swanton

Chrystofer preston

1623/4

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 46f 48\* (23 March) (*Examination of Henry Wian, late of London, groom*)

20

*Taken before John Stawell, esquire, JP*

...

Who sayth that ymmediatly vpon Christmas last, he came forth of London  
with one Rychard George, as a servaunt vnto the saide Rychard who travells  
vnder authority graunted from the master of the Revells to shew feates of  
activity, and ever synce he hath continued in the said Georg's service,  
travellinge the cuntry, the said George gyvinge him weekly for his hire ij s./

25

(signed) Iohn: Stawell

30

1624

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 47

f 43\* (6–8 April)

It is ordered that noe Churchales be hereafter vsed within this Countie

35

...

1627/8

*Petition of Somerset Clergy to Sir John Denham* PRO: SP 16/96  
single sheet (15 March)

...

To the Honorable Sir Iohn Denham Knight one of  
the Barrons of His *Maiesties* Exchequer and Iustice of  
Assize for the County of Somersett./

The humble Peticion of the ministers whose names are subscribed./  
Sheweth

That whereas at the last Summer Assises held for the County of Dorsett;  
there was an Order made for the suppressing of all Reuells, Church Ales, and  
other publique Ales [amongst other things] as by the Copie of the sayd Order  
hereunto annexed appeareth.

Your *Petitioners* therfore humbly desier that your Lordship would be pleased  
to grant the like Order at this Assises for the suppressing of the like Ales  
and disorders in this County of Somersett.

Soe they shall alwayes pray for your Lordships long  
health and prosperity

Adam Abraham  
William Gyllet  
Ralfe Turner.

Iohn fforde  
Iohn fathers  
George Drake./

15<sup>o</sup> Marcij 1627.

Let the Clerke of the Assizes draw vp the like Order for this County.

(signed) Iohn Denham.

*Quarter Sessions Roll* SRO: Q/SR 61, pt 1  
f 47\* (15 March)

An order made by the Iudges of the Assises for the suppressinge of All Ales  
and Revells March 1627

Somerset

Whereas orders haue byn heretofore made by the Iudges of the Assises for the  
suppressinge of all Ales & revells the same orders are nowe confirmed at this  
Assises & againe ordered by the Courte in regard of the infenite number of  
inconveniencis dayly insewinge by meanes of the revels Churchales Clarke  
Ales and all publicke Ales be from hence forthe vtterely suppressd And yf  
that hereafter yt shalbe made knowne toe the Iustices of peece of this County  
of any such to be sett vpp or hereafter to be vsed that then the Iustices of peace

13/ [amongst other things]: square brackets in original

24/ for: written as correction over other letters

33/ heretofore: small hole in leaf before this word, but no text missing



within ther seuerall diuisions take course as well for the speedy apprehendinge & punishment of Idle & lewd persons drawinge together to such places & alsoe for the bindinge over of the persons vsing tiplinge, inflicting of such punishment vpon all offenders in such places as the law doth inflicte. And to the end that this order may be the better observed yt is farther ordered that the Clarke of the Assises shall leue a Coppy hereof with the vndersheriffe & from the vndersheriffe every Constable shall take a Coppy for his seuerall hundred & liberty & shall particularly deliuer a Coppy to the Minister of euery parishe within his seuerall hundred & liberty And shall take a note of euery minister vnder his hand of the daye vpon which the Minister soe receved yt And shall publishe yt yerely in his parishe Churche vpon the first sunday in ffebruary And yt is further ordered that every Constable shall at euery Lent Assises present to the Iudges of this Circuite a note of the receipte of the said order vnder the hand of the said minister And for the further avoydinge of the Concorse of Idle people yt is further ordered that Ministrells and suche other persons that carry aboute bulles & beares to beyte beinge Rouges by the Statute shalbe punished as Rouges for the further prevencion of such Inconveniencies as vsually happen vpon such meetinges

1631/2

*Assize Order Book for Western Circuit* PRO: ASSI 24/20, pt 1 ff 49v–50\* (19 March) (*Taunton assises*)

*Made before Sir John Denham, baron of the Exchequer*

Whereas divers orders have ben heretofore made by the Iudges of Assises for the suppressinge of Ales and Revells the same orders are nowe confirmed att this Assize and agayne ordered by the Court in regard of the infynite number of inconveniences dayly arisinge by meanes of Reuells Church ales Clarkes ales and other publike Ales be vtterly from henceforth suppressed And yf that hereafter it shalbe knowen to the Iustices of peace of this County of any suche [that shalbe] [be] sett vp or hereafter to be vsed That then the Iustices of peace within their seuerall diuisions take [suche] course aswell for the speedy apprehendinge and punishment of idle & lewde persons drawinge togeather to suche places and alsoe for the byndinge over of those persons l vsinge tiplinge inflictinge of such punishment on all offenders in such places as the lawe dothe inflict And to thend this order may be the better observed It is farther ordered that the Clarke of Assize shall leave a cotype [t]hereof with the Vndersheriffe and from the Vndersheriffe every Constable shall take a cotype for his seuerall hundred and liberty and shall deliver a cotype to the mynister of euery parish

3/ binding: second in 2 minims in MS  
26m/ Reuells & Ales: in italic display script

29/ Reuells: in italic display script

within his seuerall hundred & liberty and shall take a noate of euery Mynister vnder his hand of the day when he received it and shall publish it yeerely in his parish church vpon the first sonday in ffebruary and two sondayes before Easter yeerely And it is farther ordered that euery Constable shall att euery lent Assize present vnto the Iudges of the Circuite a noate of the said order vnder the hand of the said mynister and for the farther avoydinge of the concurse of idle people it is farther ordered that Mynstrells & suche other persons that vsually carry vp and downe Bulls and beares to bayte being Rogues by the statute shalbe punished as Rogues for the farther prevencion of suche inconveniences as vsually happen att suche meetings

exemplificetur

...

1633

*Memorandum by Sir Francis Windebank* PRO: SP 16/255  
single sheet\* (*before 2 May*)

## Remembrances for Master Secretary

A *lettre* to be drawn to Sir Robert Phillips, Sir Henry Barkley and Dr Goodwin Iustices of the Peace of the County of Somerset.

They are to be commanded to send vp an Accompt what hath bene giuen in Charge by the Iudges of Assize or anie other in Authority; The Iudges which now ride that Circuit or anie other th( . . ) ( . )id ride it before them; for suppressing of the feastes of the dedica( . . ) ( . )f Churches commonly called the wakes. And whether anie Iu( . )ye or other made anie order and sent it to the Ministers to publish in their seuerall parishes without anie warrant from the Bishop of the diocesse vnto them. And particularly what order the Lord chief Iustice Richardson made or published at the Last Assizes for that County, for the recalling of any such order made against the said feastes, as his Lordship had expresse charge to doe, noe lesse then twice from his Maiesty by the Lord Keeper of the great Seale. for his Maiesties expresse will and command is, both that the Lords day be kept with that Reuerence that is due to it, and that after euening prayer the people be not barr'd of their ciuill and decent, recreacions. Alwaies provided that the Iustices of peace in their seuerall diuisions take that care vpon them, that all excesses in their feastes and all disorders in their Recreations be preuented. And the same Care his Maiesty will have taken for Deuon and Cornwall, where (as he is informed) there is observed a great hurt and generall dishartening to the people for want of their due and

2/ his: h written over something else

8, 9/ Rogues: in italic display script

30-1/ the Lord Keeper of the great Seale: Sir Thomas Coventry, Lord Coventry

accustomed Recreations. And when they haue giuen his *Maiesty* this accompt, he will take such farther order as he shall find fittest both for the service of God, and the good of his people &c.

*Letter of Charles 1 to Three Somerset jps* SRO: DD/PH 222  
single sheet\* (2 May)

5

(signed) Charles R

Trusty & welbeloued we greeete yow. Wheras we vnderstand it hath bene an ancient custom in that County & in sondry other partes to hold certain feastes of dedications of Churches commonly called the Wakes & that the said custom hath bene of late interrupted, we do heerby will & require yow forthwith to certify vs vnder your handes, what hath bene given in charge by the Iudges of assize which do now ryde that circuite or by any other that haue formerly ryd the same, or by any other in authority concerning the suppressing of the said feastes. And further whether any Iudge or other haue made any order concerning the same, & sent it to any of the Clergy to publish in their severall parishes without warrant from the Bishop of the Diocesse. And more particularly we do heerby require yow to certify vs what order Sir Thomas Richardson chiefe Iustice of our Courte of Kings benche did make & publish at the last assizes for that County for the recalling of any such former order made against the said feastes, as our expresse command twice signified vnto him by the Lord Keeper of our greate Seale was he shold doe. Our intention in this businis is no way to giue a liberty to the breache or prophanacion of the Lordes day, which we will to be kepte with that solemnity & reverence that is due to it, but that the people after evening prayer may vse suche decent & sober recreations as are fitt. And to that end we do heerby require yow & all other the Iustices of peace in your severall diuisions, to take speciall care, that all excesses in those feastes & disorders in those Recreations be prevented. Given vnder our Signett at our Palace of Westminster the Second day of May in the nyynth year of our Raigne

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*Letter of Three Somerset jps to Charles 1* SRO: DD/PH 222  
ff [1-3v]\* (after 2 May)

35

To the Kings moste Excellent *Maiestie*

The humble Certificate of Robert Phelipps & Henry Berkeley Knightes & Paul Godwyn Doctor in Diuinitie

May it please your *Maiestie*

Whereas by your *Maiesties* lettres dated the Second of May in the Nineth yeare of your happy raigne, wee are comawded to certifie your *Maiestie* vnder our handes, what hath bene given in charge by the Iudges of Assizes,

40

which doe nowe ride this Westerne Circuit, or by any other that haue formerlie ridd the same, or by any other in authoritie, concerninge the suppressinge of the feast daies (commonly called wakes) of this Countie of Somerset  
 As likewise, whether any Iudge or other, haue made any order concerninge the same, and sent it to any of the clergie to publishe in their seuerall parishes, without warrant from the Bishop of the Diocesse. And wee are also by those  
*lettres* more particularlye commanded, to certifie *your Maiestie* what order Sir Thomas Richardson Cheife Iustice of *your Maiesties Court* of Kingsbench, did make and publishe at the last Assizes for this Countie, for the recalling of any such former orders made against the said feastes, as by *your Maiesties* expresse command, twice signified vnto him by the Lord Keeper of the great Seale, he was to haue done./

Nowe in obedience to theise *your Maiesties* direccions, and in discharge of *our owne* particular duties, We humbly render *your Maiestie* this followinge accompt of *our* proceedinges herein, I groundinge the same not onely vpon *our owne* particular memory, and obseruacion, but likewise vpon suche other sort of evidence and testimony, as might best conduce to the findinge out of the truthe, and the presentinge her cleare and without contradiccion before *your royall veiwe*, which we humbly supplicate may be gratusely afforded to that which here followeth./

And in the first place concerninge that part of *your Maiesties* direccions, what orders haue been made, and by whome for the suppressinge of the feast daies, Wee find that there was an order to that purpose made in the yeare 1627, by the then Iudges of Assize ridinge this Circuit, the coppie whereof we humbly present vnto *your Maiestie* but it doth not by any diligence we can vse, appeare vnto vs, that the said order was either generally knowne, or in any sort publicly executed, till nowe very lately by the direccion of the present Iudges./

We further finde that in the yeare 1631, at the summer Assizes held at Taunton for this Countie, the nowe Lorde Cheife Iustice Sir Thomas Richardson, did publicly declare himselfe against theise feast daies, & Revells, expressinge at that time, that in the Circuit which he had formerlie rid, he did suppress them there, and w<sup>ch</sup> for soe doinge complained onn to *your Maiestie*, vnto whome he gaue (as he said) very good satisfaccion. Hee at this Assizes did order, that they should be suppressed in this Countye, and did alsoe giue direccions to the Iustices of peace to binde those whoe should not obserue his order therein to the next Assizes./

In prosecution of *which* order and *direccions*, the Constable of Batcombe did with company with him, in somewhat a violent manner (as we are informed) enter the howse of one Iordan of that parishe, the feast daie of that place, about Nine of the clocke in the evening, beinge Sundaye, where were assembled some of Iordans freindes and neighbours in a quiett and orderlie manner, but the Constable dispersed the company, and the next day carried Iordan to a Iustice for contemninge this order & *direccions*, but the Iustice did not at that time binde over Iordan, but a while after, my Lorde Cheife Iustice being then at the Bathe, and being informed of this passage, gave *direccions* that his former orders should be executed, and accordinglie was Iordan bound to the Assizes, & good behavior. Iordan consideringe the hard measure as he conceived offered vnto him in having his howse vnder color of authoritye, and without the charge of any legall offence, to be thus entered and himselfe arrested and bound over to the Assizes, did in Michaelmas terme followinge exhibite his bill of complaint into *your Maiesties* Court of Starrechamber against the Constable and his assistantes for this violence offered vnto him, vnto *which* bill they demurred, and pleaded for iustificacion theire warrant and the former *direccions*. And herevpon as we haue heard, and doe beleive it to be true, his Lordshipp was soe much moved and disturbed, as that he procured the cause to be referred to himselfe, to consider whether it were fitt to be retayned in that Court or not, and agreeable vnto his endeavors the cause was referred vnto his Lordshipp and hee made a certificate vnto the Lorddes of the Starrechamber, wherein he expressed his owne former order, and *direccions* made for the suppressinge of the feast daies, & the contempt of Iordan in his disobedience vnto them, & did deliver his opinion to be, That the cause was fitt to be dismissed with good costes for their vniust vexacion therein, and accordingly the cause was dismissed. The coppies of *which* certificate, & the order of dismission, we humbly likewise present vnto *your Maiesty* |

This order thus made by my Lord Cheife Iustice, and in such sort put in execucion, as in his [owne] Certificate is expressed, It doth appeare vnto vs that at the Assizes next immediately followinge, held at Taunton, in March 1631, the before mencioned order made in the year 1627, by the Iudges that then did ride this Circuit, was nowe revived, & with some addition (as wee conceive) directed to be put in execucion. The Constables were strictly commanded to take coppies of that order, and the Clergie accordinge to the purport of the same, enioyned to publishe and divulge the said order in theire seuerall parishe Churches, *which* *direccions* both by the Constables, and the Clergie were accordinglie obeyed & put in execucion. And that this was done without any warrant from the then Lord Bishop of this diocesse, besides other good reasons to induce vs soe to beleive, wee haue the Lord Bishops owne

affirmation, whoe told one of <sup>[vs]</sup> that he did not knowe, nor had heard of any such direccions, before the order it selfe was by the Clergie in sundry Churches of this County read & divulged./

Nowe for that part *which* it doth please *your Maiestie* in a more particular manner to require *vs* to certifie, concerning my Lord Cheife Iustice his obedience vnto *your Maiesties* comandes, to be by him performed at the last Assizes held for this County, Wee doe in all humilitie present vnto *your Maiestie*, that neither by *our owne* observacion, whoe were then present att the Assizes, nor by the informacion of others, of whome wee haue with diligence enquired, doth it appeare vnto *vs* that he did make or publishe any order, for the revokinge and annullinge the former orders and direccions given against the said feast daies and Revells, neither did he in any sort at that time, declare it to be *your Maiesties* pleasure, that those feastes in this Countye, should be againe restored to their accustomed and orderlye vse and practice. Att *which* his *Lordships* neglect and omission wee I cannott yenough mervaille, when we consider the proper occasion was ministred vnto him, to putt him in minde of *your Maiesties* direccions and his owne dutie in that particular, ffor some Constables did repaire vnto him to knowe his pleasure, whether the order made by his *Lordship* for the suppressinge of the feast and Revell daies in this Countye should be any longer obserued or not; What he replied to this proposicion, is set downe in a paper apart, as it was delivered vnto twoe of *vs* by one of the high Constables of this Countie, whoe did propound the question to his *Lordship*.

In the last place, and by waye of conclusion of this *our* humble Certificate, We presume to tell *your Maiestie*, that these feast daies and Revells, have bene for a long space obserued and practiced in the severall parishes of this Countye; Are much affected by the people here, & doe commendably serue to nourishe acquaintance and affection amongst them, eache parishe at those times, mutually entertayninge one another, with argumentes of loue, freedome, and hospitality And although the best assemblies are not priuiledged from ill accidentes, nor from the mixture of some ill ordered people, yet we haue not knowne in *our* divisions (for *which* we praise God) any such bad encounter to haue happened, neither hath the conversacon at such times bene soe irregular, profane, or excessive, as that it hath ministred matter of severe reprehension, or hath given iust cause of scandall to men soberly minded, and not too much addicted to the waies of an overstrict singularitie./

Neverthesse we cannott be soe much wanting to dutie, & *our owne*

obligacion, as not to acknowledge *your Maiesties* singular goodnes and pietie,  
 expressed in *your* Royall care and I direccions, to prevent that the *Lordes*  
 daye vnder color & pretence of sober and decent recreacion should not be  
 irreligiously prophaned, nor the fitt and religious duties thereof, should be in  
 any sort neglected or contemned, neither that in these feast times necessary  
 & harmelesse libertie shold not be converted into bold lycence, and disorder. 5  
 To the obseruacion of these *your Maiesties* direccions, we shall apply *our selues*  
 with all possible dutie and diligence, and we shall not omitt in *our* moste  
 entire and fervent deuotions, to beseech God to give *your Maiestie* here on  
 earth a long and glorious raigne, to the vnspeakeable comfort and felicitie of 10  
 all *your* faithfull subiectes, and amongst them of vs  
*your Maiesties* moste loyall vassalls

(signed) Robert phelipps  
 Henry Berkeley  
 Paul Godwyn

15

*Assize Order for Western Circuit* PRO: SP 16/255  
 single sheet\* (before 18 August)

...  
 Whereas diuerse Orders haue been heretofore made by the Iudges of Assisse 20  
 for the suppressing of Church Ales, Clerkes Ales, Wakes Reuells and such like  
 within this County of Somersett, which were formerly made by the Iudges by  
 reason of many disorders and misdemeanors arising vpon the meeting of  
 multitudes of people out of other parishes. It is now ordered by his Lordship  
 that all former Orders heretofore made by any Iudges or Iustices for the 25  
 suppressing of Church ales, Clerkes Ales Wakes and Reuells be reuoked [as  
 much as in him lyeth] and made vtterly void. And that it may be Lawfull  
 for all persons freely to vse any Lawfull recreation or exercise at such meetings,  
 but with this aduice that they be carefull that noe outrages or misdemeanors,  
 commonly arising at such Church Ales, Clarke Ales, wakes and Reuells be 30  
 done or committed./

*Petition of Somerset JPs to Charles I* PRO: SP 16/255  
 single sheet\* (before 18 August)

35

To the Kings Most Excellent Maiestie

The most humble Peticion of the Iustices of the Peace  
 [within] [of] the County of Somerset./  
 Most humbly shewing that whereas heretofore there haue beene from time

26-7/ [as ... lyeth]: square brackets in MS

to time seuerall good orders made by the Iustices of Assise, and Iustices of the  
 peace for the countie of Somerset for the restraining and suppressing of  
 certaine Assemblys in that County Called Church Ales, Clerks Ales Bid Ales,  
 °wakes° and Reuells by reason of many disorders inseperably accompaning the  
 same whereby the said Assemblys haue for the most parte for a longe time  
 beene forborne and not vsed to the great good and quiett of the said Countie:/  
 Nowe soe it is may it please your Maiestie that by occasion of a declaration  
 published the last Assises by the lord Cheife Iustice of the kings bench for  
 restoringe of Wakes and Reuells and repealinge of all orders made against them  
 and by reason [of a p(...)'s(...)] of a rumor thereof spread in the Country since  
 the last lent Assises, not only all the disorders 'aforesaid' of profanacion of  
 the Lords daie riotous typlinge contempt of authoreteyes quarrels murders  
 &c ffrequently ouerflowinge the said Assembly haue increased this somer but  
 euen the other disorderlye Assemblyes of Church Ales Bid Ales Clerkes Ales  
 condemned by the lawes haue againe beene set vp to the greate preiudice [ple]  
 'of the' peace plenty and good gouernment of the Countye

May it therfore please your most excellent Maiesty to graunt vs some more  
 particuler declaracion herein that your Maiesties Command [in yat behalf(...)]  
 ^con(...) may not be thought to extend [any] further then to the vpholdinge  
 of ciuell feasting[e] beetweene neyghbour[s] and neighbour in theire houses,  
 and the orderly and seasonable vse of manly exercises and actiuityes, wich wee  
 all shalbe most readey to mayntayne, and that wee may haue your Maiesties  
 fauor and allowance to suppress all the fore mencioned vnlawfull assemblys  
 of Church Ales Clarke Ales and Bid Ales and to punish all the fore mencioned  
 disorders as heretofore wee haue done, wherein your petitioners haue noe  
 other end then to doe your Maiestie[s] faythfull seruice and to preserue the  
 good gouernment of the Countye/

°Ion Lord Pawlet°

William Portman	ffrauncis Popham
Iohn Stowell	Edward Rodeney
Ralphe Hopton	ffrauncis Dodington
Iohn Symmes	Iohn Horner
William ffrauncis	William Bassitt
Iohn Harington	Iohn Windham
Robert Cuff	Robert Hopton
Richard Cole	Georg Speke
°Edward° Powell	Thomas Lutterell
William Euerey	William Walrond
Anthoney Stocker	Geraud Wood
William Capell	

4/ °wakes°: inserted in left margin  
 37/ Powell: corrected from Powlett

29-40/ William Portman ... William Capell: names  
 written by scribe of text in italic display script



°George Poulett°

*Letter of Sir Robert Phelips to Charles I* SRO: DD/PH 222  
single sheet\* (18 August)

May it please your Maiestie

I doe moste humblie presume to certifie *your Maiestie*, that the Lord Cheife Iustice hath at this Assizes executed *your Maiesties commandes*, for the  
 1 revokinge of the orders and direccions prohibitinge the Revells and ffeast 10  
 2 daies in this Countie, in soe vnfit a *manner* as will scarce stand with his dutie  
 3 and obedience. It pleased him to laye publique aspercions vppon my selfe, and  
 4 others whoe were by *your Maiestie* employed in that occasion. He likewise  
 5 alleaged thinges not agreable to truthe, and wrested and disguised other peices,  
 6 to the apparant iniurye thereof. Hee mencioned the office of the *Bishop* 15  
 7 slightlie if not with scorne. Hee perswaded and incited the gentlemen to  
 8 petition *your Maiestie* against *your owne* direccions, and thereby factiouslye  
 9 to distract the vnitie and peace of this Countie; And finallye did insinuate  
 10 that the *orderes* made were iust, and consequentlie laide an aspercion vppon  
 11 *your Maiesties* direccions for their revocation. 20

This beinge the state of his carriage, and of the *present* buisines; It is moste humblie petitioned, to thend *your Maiestie* may discerne the truthe, and laye the blame where it is merited, and cutt short in future occasions the method of  
 12 soe bolde a proceedinge; That yow will be pleased to referre the examinacion 25  
 13 of the Certificate *which* was latelye presented vnto *your Maiestie*, and this  
 14 particular carriage and proceedinge of the Lord Cheife Iustice, vnto the right  
 15 honorable the Lord Keeper of the greate Seale, and the Lord *Bishop* of  
 16 London. ffor *which* *your Maiesties* royall favor both my selfe and others shall  
 17 be encouraged with alacritie and diligence to execute *your Maiesties commandes* 30  
 18 And in the meane time shall as in dutie we stand bound earnestlie beseech  
 19 allmightie God to continue vnto *your Maiestie* a long & happie raigne over vs  
 20 °Your Maiestyes most loyall subiect and vassall

Ro Phelipps°

single sheet dorse\* (25 August)

At the Courte at Woodstock: 25<sup>o</sup>: August 1633:

His *Maiesties* pleasure is that the most Reuerend father in God the Lord 40

Archbishop elect of Canterbury, and the Right Honourable the Lord Priuy Seale and the Lord Marshall shall examine [v<...)] aswell the former Certificate herein mentioned as this and certify his Maiesty what they find thereupon that soe his Maiesty may take such further order therein as in his Princely wisdome he shall thinke fitt./

(signed) Francis Windebank

*The King's Declaration concerning Lawful Sports* STC: 9254.7  
pp 1-2\* (18 October)

¶ By the King.

OVR Deare Father of blessed Memory, in his retorne from Scotland, comming through Lancashire, found that his Subjects were debarred from Lawful Recreations vpon Sundayes after Euening Prayers ended, and vpon Holy dayes: And Hee prudently considered, that if these times were taken I from them, the meaner sort who labour hard all the weeke, should haue no Recreations at all to refresh their spirits. And after His retorne, Hee farther saw that His loyall subiects in all other parts of His Kingdome did suffer in the same kinde, though perhaps not in the same degree: And did therefore in His Princely wisdome, publish a Declaration to all his louing Subjects concerning lawfull Sports to be vsed at such times, which was printed and published by His royall Commandement in the yeere 1618. In the Tenor which hereafter followeth.

pp 15-17

NOW out of a like pious Care for the seruice of God, and for suppressing of any humors that oppose trueth and for the Ease, Comfort, & Recreation of Our well deseruing People, Wee doe ratifie and publish this Our blessed Fathers Declaration: The rather because of late in some Countie of Our Kingdome, Wee finde that vnder pretence of taking away abuses, there hath been a generall forbidding, not onely of ordinary meetings, but of the Feasts of the Dedication of the Churches, commonly I called Wakes. Now Our expresse will and pleasure is, that these Feasts with others shall bee obserued, and that Our Iustices of the peace in their seuerall Diuisions shall looke to it, both that all disorders there may be preuented or punished, and that all neighbourhood and freedome, with manlike and lawfull Exercises bee vsed. And Wee farther Command Our Iustices of Assize in their seuerall Circuits, to see that no man doe trouble or molest any of Our loyall and ductifull

people, in or for their lawfull Recreations, hauing first done their duetie to God, and continuing in l obedience to Vs and Our Lawes. And of this Wee command all Our Iudges, Iustices of the Peace, as well within Liberties as without, Maiors, Bayliffes, Constables, and other Officers, to take notice of, and to see obserued, as they tender Our displeasure. And Wee farther will, 5  
that publication of this Our Command bee made by order from the Bishops through all the Parish Churches of their seuerall Diocese respectively.

Giuen at Our Palace of Westminster the eighteenth day of  
October, in the ninth yeere of Our Reigne.

10

God saue the King.

1638

*Somerset Grand Jury Presentment* PRO: SP 16/395

15

ff [1-1v]\* (2 July) (*Bath assizes*)

...

Imptimis wee present, that Corne and other provision is growne to an excessiue Rate which wee doe conceaue not to bee occasioned soe much by scarcity and want, Considering the Markettes are sufficiently furnished.: as by other 20  
accidentēs namely one principall one is the great and heavy taxacions by new invented wayes vppon the County, which is soe heavy a burthen on the ffarmars and husbandmen as that it causeth them to sell their graine And other provision at high rates to support their charge by which the poore laborours and <sup>λ</sup>[those] that liue by the sweat of their browes are not able to 25  
get sufficient sustenance for themselues and families And a Cause of many theftes and ffelonies as wee now find.

Item wee doe present that another cause of the excessiue Rates of Corne is by reason of a late practise in this County of gathering great Companies of vnrule people at Bull baitinges vnder the pretence of helping some poore man: who 30  
Brewes about thirtie or fortie Bushells of Mault and spendes it all at one of these meetings, and their are many theftes and disorders committed after their departure, this is soe publike and soe frequent in most places of this County that it cannot bee vnknownen to the Iustices of Peace within their l divisions and yet wee doe not heare of any man punished for the same./ 35

...

25/ the sweat of their browes: cf *Genesis* 3:19























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